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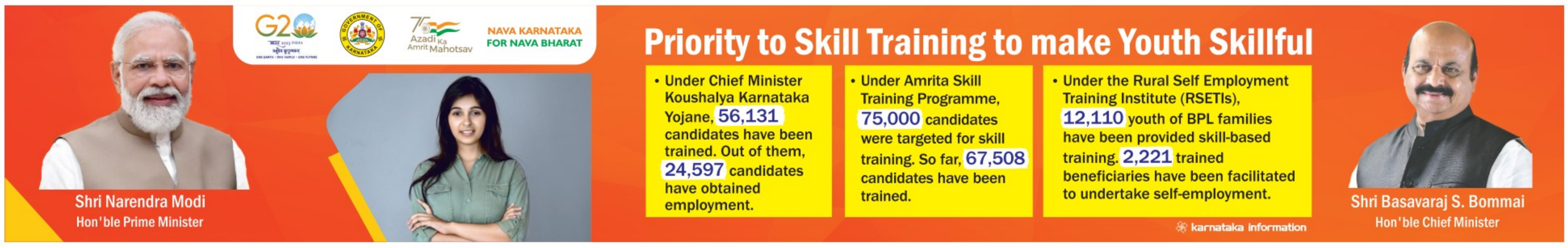

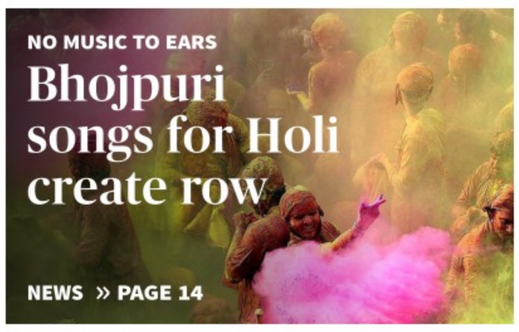

NO MUSIC TO EARS

Bhojpuri songs for Holi create row

NEWS » PAGE 14

LAW AND ORDER

In Punjab, fear of the return of 'dark days'

A police station siege in Ajnala stokes concerns

GROUND ZERO » PAGE 11

SHIFTING HITCH

Kuno park insufficient for 20 cheetahs, says scientist

NEWS » PAGE 13

Sangma to form govt. in Meghalaya; Rio will lead Nagaland

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

The National People's Party on Friday overcame a hiccup in forming the next government in Meghalaya. In Nagaland, the Nationalist Democratic Progressive Party's Neiphiu Rio will lead the coalition government that includes the BJP, while the BJP's Manik Saha staked his claim to form the government in Tripura.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah are expected to attend the oath-taking ceremonies. Meghalaya witnessed a brief drama after NPP chief Conrad K. Sangma met the Governor in Shillong in the morning to submit his resignation as the CM and stake claim to form the next government.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 12

Select Central staff can opt for Old Pension Scheme

Govt. allows one-time option for those who applied for jobs advertised before Dec. 22, 2003, the day National Pension Scheme was notified but joined service in 2004, when NPS came into effect

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

In a significant decision, the government has decided to give a one-time option to select Central government employees to migrate to the Old Pension Scheme (OPS).

The employees should have applied for jobs advertised before December 22, 2003, the day the National Pension System (NPS) was notified, but joined service in 2004, when the NPS came into effect. The option is available to the Central government employees enrolled under the NPS as they joined service on or after January 1, 2004.

The order will also be applicable to the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) personnel. Employees have time till August 31 to opt for the OPS.

The employees' contribution to the NPS will be credited to the General Provident Fund (GPF) of the individual.

Old vs New

A look at the difference between the old and the new pension schemes

Old Pension Scheme	National Pension Scheme
The scheme guarantees a **life-long income, post-retirement**	It is a participatory scheme, where **employees contribute to their pension corpus from their salaries**, with matching contribution from the government
Government bears the expenditure incurred on the pension	The funds are invested in earmarked investment schemes through Pension Fund Managers
Under the scheme, a monthly payment is assured, where the **amount is equivalent to 50% of the last drawn salary**	**On retirement, 60% of the corpus, which is tax-free,** is withdrawn while the remaining 40% is invested in annuities, which is taxed

The Bharatiya Janata Party-led government has maintained that restoration of the old system will cause unnecessary financial burden on the government while several Opposition-ruled States such as Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Jharkhand and Himachal Pradesh have announced that they would restore the OPS.

Official cites litigations

A senior government official told *The Hindu* that the decision was taken to address the vast gamut of litigations that the government faced on the issue.

"There were hundreds of litigations in courts across the country, the government did not win a single case. Through court orders, individual officials were getting benefit, we decided to issue general instructions for the benefit of all eligible officials," said the official.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 12

Raid: Seizure from MLA's son adds up to ₹7.72 crore

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Continuing their raid after catching Channagiri BJP MLA's son Prashanth Madal while accepting ₹40 lakh bribe, the Lokayukta authorities recovered unaccounted cash totalling ₹7.72 crore till Friday.

The Lokayukta police raided Mr. Prashanth Madal's residence at Dollars Colony and recovered ₹6.1 crore from there and ₹1.62 crore from the MLA's office. This is apart from the ₹40 lakh bribe that the complainant was handing over to him during the trap. Five people, including Mr. Prashanth Madal, have been arrested.

Virupakshappa Madal, MLA, has been named the prime accused in the case.

DETAILS ON
» PAGE 8

PROPERTYPLUS » PAGE 5

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GETTY IMAGES

Red-hot Rashford powering United's revolution

The striker has been irresistible this season, making a difference in big matches against top sides. His stunning turnaround has inspired his club's return to relevance under manager Erik ten Hag

Reuters
Agence France-Presse

Marcus Rashford has been in such scorching form this season that it felt inevitable that he would find the back of the net in the League Cup final against Newcastle at Wembley.

It was ironic, therefore, that he had to wait to be credited with the goal – his shot, deflected in by defender Sven Botman, was originally given as an own goal before the organisers announced that it would officially be chalked down to the Manchester United hitman.

Not only did the goal help end the Red Devils' six-year wait for silverware – even if the League Cup isn't regarded as a 'major' trophy – it also meant that Rashford had scored in every round of the tournament to finish as its leading scorer with six strikes. The goal took the 25-year-old's season tally to 25 goals, of which two-thirds have come after the World Cup break.

Rashford has epitomised United's resurgence, his scintillating performances helping the side ride the crest of a wave. He has been immense in the big games against the big teams. He has scored in wins over Arsenal, Manchester City and Liverpool this season, on occasion making something out of nothing, thanks to this athleticism, skill and ball-striking.

> Rashford is one of the most dangerous strikers in Europe. He's very fast, good in one-on-ones and very dangerous in transitions
>
> **XAVI**
> Barcelona manager

Shaking Camp Nou

Rashford recently carried his carve-up of Premier League defences onto the European stage in an enthralling first leg at Camp Nou. He turned a 1-0 deficit against Barcelona into a 2-1 lead for United in a seven-minute spell in Catalonia as he smashed home at Marc-Andre ter Stegen's near post and then drilled in a cross that forced Jules Kounde to turn into his own net.

Rashford was a formidable threat in the second leg at Old Trafford as well, helping United notch up its biggest European scalp since 2019 when his penalty had dumped Paris Saint-Germain out of the Champions League.

The Europa League win over Barcelona felt like United's defining moment in its season of renaissance under Erik ten Hag; it was also confirmation of Rashford's freshly minted status as a truly elite striker capable of deciding marquee games from any position on the frontline.

Having been booed by his own supporters last season, Rashford's turnaround has been staggering. No player in Europe's top five leagues comes close to his 21 goal involvements, with 17 goals and four assists since returning from Qatar. Not bad for a forward who was so woefully out of form last season that he scored only five times in all competitions!

So, what has caused this transformation after a frustrating period when it seemed like his vast potential might be squandered? There appear to be three contributing factors: the departure of hero-turned-villain Cristiano Ronaldo, the arrival of ten Hag and the player's commitment to a career reset.

> Football is probably 95% your mentality. That gives you the baseline to perform
>
> **RASHFORD**

The Ronaldo situation

Ronaldo's transfer in 2021 was seen as a vanity signing as United was not struggling to score; Rashford, himself, was on the rise, having completed a second straight season with 20-plus goals in all competitions. But even as Ronaldo added to his burgeoning goals tally, the rest of the team suffered. There were also reports of a toxic atmosphere at Old Trafford, with some players allegedly unhappy at having to service the ambitions of United's megastar.

The entry of ten Hag, who laid down the law very early on, benched the ageing Ronaldo and changed the style of play to get the best out of all players on the pitch, was a significant moment. Ronaldo was left seething but United slowly began winning games again.

The Portugal forward's acrimonious exit lifted a pall that had hung over the club. It also allowed Rashford to step out of the shadow of the five-time Ballon d'Or winner and become the player United fans envisaged when he burst onto the scene as a fresh-faced teenager in 2016.

Disciplinary issues marked the end for Ronaldo, who left games early, upset at being benched, but Rashford has graciously accepted punishment and come out the better for it. The England forward was left out of the starting lineup against Wolverhampton Wanderers on New Year's Eve after missing a team meeting because he had overslept. Instead of sulking, he came off the bench, scored the winner and accepted the blame for his "mistake".

Ten Hag's firm but fair approach appears to be exactly what Rashford needs. It's no surprise that the striker had described his manager as a "joy to work with" even before the spectacular run of form began.

"As coaches, we have to push them but finally it comes from the player," ten Hag said. "When Rashy loses focus then the scoring will stop. [That's] clear. When he works well, he will even score more goals because he can score with his left, right and his head."

Ten Hag's system of playing brings the best out of Rashford because it creates an environment for him to thrive in. "It is more about bringing him in the right position and that as a team we create the right spaces for him, so that he can bring his strengths," ten Hag said. "Then he is unstoppable with his speed, his dribbles, his directness."

> Rashford is unstoppable with his speed, his dribbles, his directness. He can be creative in the final third, [capable of] some crazy stuff, fantasy and adventure
>
> **ERIK TEN HAG**
> Manchester United manager

Change in mentality

Rashford's change in mentality has played a big part in his revival. Resolving to get back on track, he flew last year to the United States to work on his sprinting style and peripheral vision to improve his link-up play, ahead of ten Hag's first pre-season as United manager.

"Football is probably 95% your mentality," Rashford told British media. "That gives you the baseline to perform. There are a lot of players that have the ability – that's why they play at the top level. But what sets them apart is the mentality. I've been on both sides of it."

The issue for United is what happens should Rashford fail to maintain his scoring streak. He has been ever-present in United's brutal schedule after the World Cup, serving as the team's primary source of goals. But he appeared to injure himself in the second leg against Barcelona and was a doubtful starter in the League Cup final.

Rashford willed himself through the pain barrier, however, as he often has this season. It's something United will hope he can continue to do.

"He learned already, he knows that in top football you have to suffer, you have to sacrifice, you have your painful moments," ten Hag said. "Opponents will be tough to stop him, but he is capable of dealing with it. A player like Marcus, when they stay in the game, with 100 percent concentration, they have the skills and only need one moment to change the result."

STACKING UP

ATP Men's Top 15

#	Player	Age	Points	Events
1	Novak Djokovic	35	6,980	14
2	Carlos Alcaraz	19	6,780	18
3	Stefanos Tsitsipas	24	5,805	21
4	Casper Ruud	24	5,515	23
5	Taylor Fritz	25	3,660	22
6	Andrey Rublev	25	3,405	24
7	Daniil Medvedev	27	3,320	22
8	Rafael Nadal	36	3,315	13
9	Felix Auger-Aliassime	22	3,245	26
10	Holger Rune	19	3,161	25
11	Hubert Hurkacz	26	3,065	21
12	Cameron Norrie	27	2,815	23
13	Jannik Sinner	21	2,655	20
14	Karen Khachanov	26	2,470	22
15	Frances Tiafoe	25	2,350	22

Top Indians ▶

Prajnesh Gunneswaran
Rank 323 ▲ 8 spots

Sumit Nagal
Rank 387 ▲ 22 spots

WTA Women's Top 15

#	Player	Age	Points	Events
1	Iga Swiatek	21	10,585	17
2	Aryna Sabalenka	24	6,100	19
3	Jessica Pegula	29	5,495	17
4	Ons Jabeur	28	4,921	16
5	Caroline Garcia	29	4,835	23
6	Coco Gauff	18	4,251	18
7	Maria Sakkari	27	3,451	23
8	Daria Kasatkina	25	3,375	24
9	Belinda Bencic	25	3,360	21
10	Elena Rybakina	23	2,935	22
11	Veronika Kudermetova	25	2,620	21
12	Liudmila Samsonova	24	2,301	21
13	Beatriz Haddad Maia	26	2,256	26
14	Victoria Azarenka	33	2,237	15
15	Petra Kvitova	32	2,227	18

Top Indians ▶

Ankita Raina
Rank 241 ▲ 4 spots

Karman Thandi
Rank 267 ▼ 2 spots

English Premier League Standings

#	Team	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	Arsenal	25	19	3	3	56	23	33	60
2	Man. City	25	17	4	4	64	25	39	55
3	Man. United	24	15	4	5	41	28	13	49
4	Tottenham	25	14	3	8	46	35	11	45
5	Newcastle	23	10	11	2	35	15	20	41
6	Liverpool	24	11	6	7	40	28	12	39
7	Fulham	25	11	6	8	36	31	5	39
8	Brighton	22	10	5	7	39	29	10	35
9	Brentford	23	8	11	4	37	30	7	35
10	Chelsea	24	8	7	9	23	25	-2	31
11	Aston Villa	24	9	4	11	30	38	-8	31
12	Palace	24	6	9	9	21	31	-10	27
13	Nott. Forest	24	6	7	11	18	42	-24	25
14	Leicester	24	7	3	14	36	42	-6	24
15	Wolves	25	6	6	13	18	35	-17	24
16	West Ham	24	6	5	13	23	29	-6	23
17	Leeds	24	5	7	12	29	39	-10	22
18	Everton	25	5	6	14	17	36	-19	21
19	Bournemouth	24	5	6	13	22	48	-26	21
20	Southampton	24	5	3	16	19	41	-22	18

Spanish LaLiga Standings

#	Team	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	Barcelona	23	19	2	2	45	8	37	59
2	Real Madrid	23	16	4	3	47	18	29	52
3	Real Sociedad	23	13	4	6	32	23	9	43
4	Atletico Madrid	23	12	6	5	32	18	14	42
5	Real Betis	23	12	4	7	32	25	7	40
6	Rayo Vallecano	23	9	7	7	29	25	4	34
7	Villarreal	23	10	4	9	26	23	3	34
8	Osasuna	23	9	6	8	22	23	-1	33
9	Athletic Bilbao	23	9	5	9	33	26	7	32
10	Real Mallorca	23	9	4	10	21	24	-3	31
11	Girona	23	8	6	9	36	35	1	30
12	Espanyol	23	6	9	8	29	34	-5	27
13	Celta Vigo	23	7	6	10	26	34	-8	27
14	Sevilla	23	6	7	10	26	33	-7	25
15	Almeria	23	7	4	12	28	40	-12	25
16	Cadiz	23	6	7	10	18	35	-17	25
17	Real Valladolid	23	7	3	13	16	33	-17	24
18	Valencia	23	6	5	12	27	27	0	23
19	Getafe	23	5	7	11	20	30	-10	22
20	Elche	23	1	6	16	17	48	-31	9

Italian Serie A Standings

#	Team	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	Napoli	24	21	2	1	58	15	43	65
2	Inter Milan	24	15	2	7	44	28	16	47
3	AC Milan	24	14	5	5	41	30	11	47
4	Lazio	24	13	6	5	40	19	21	45
5	Roma	24	13	5	6	31	21	10	44
6	Atalanta	24	12	5	7	42	28	14	41
7	Juventus *	24	15	5	4	40	19	21	35
8	Bologna	24	10	5	9	31	33	-2	35
9	Torino	24	8	7	9	26	29	-3	31
10	Udinese	24	7	10	7	33	30	3	31
11	Monza	24	8	5	11	28	34	-6	29
12	Fiorentina	24	7	7	10	27	30	-3	28
13	Empoli	24	6	10	8	22	31	-9	28
14	Sassuolo	24	7	6	11	27	35	-8	27
15	Lecce	24	6	9	9	24	27	-3	27
16	Salernitana	24	6	6	12	28	44	-16	24
17	Spezia	24	4	8	12	21	41	-20	20
18	Verona	24	4	5	15	20	37	-17	17
19	Cremonese	24	1	9	14	19	43	-24	12
20	Sampdoria	24	2	5	17	11	39	-28	11

** 15 points deducted after investigation into club's past transfer dealings*

German Bundesliga Standings

#	Team	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	Bayern	22	13	7	2	64	21	43	46
2	Dortmund	22	15	1	6	45	27	18	46
3	Union Berlin	22	13	4	5	35	27	8	43
4	Leipzig	22	12	6	4	45	27	18	42
5	Freiburg	22	12	5	5	35	32	3	41
6	Eint. Frankfurt	22	11	5	6	43	31	12	38
7	Wolfsburg	22	9	6	7	40	29	11	33
8	Mainz	22	9	5	8	37	34	3	32
9	Werder	22	9	3	10	34	41	-7	30
10	M'gladbach	22	8	5	9	38	39	-1	29
11	Leverkusen	22	8	4	10	36	36	0	28
12	Cologne	22	6	8	8	32	36	-4	26
13	Augsburg	22	7	3	12	26	38	-12	24
14	Hertha Berlin	22	5	5	12	27	40	-13	20
15	Stuttgart	22	4	7	11	27	38	-11	19
16	Hoffenheim	22	5	4	13	29	41	-12	19
17	Bochum	22	6	1	15	24	54	-30	19
18	Schalke	22	3	7	12	16	42	-26	16

Test Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Marnus Labuschagne	912	937
2	Steve Smith	875	947
3	Joe Root	871	923
4	Babar Azam	862	882
5	Travis Head	826	841
6	Kane Williamson	797	919
7	Tom Blundell	782	782
8	Rishabh Pant	781	801
9	Rohit Sharma	777	813
10	Dimuth Karunaratne	748	782

Test Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	R. Ashwin	864	904
2	James Anderson	859	903
3	Pat Cummins	858	914
4	Jasprit Bumrah	795	835
5	Shaheen Afridi	787	836
6	Ollie Robinson	785	820
7	Kagiso Rabada	776	902
8	Ravindra Jadeja	763	899
9	Kyle Jamieson	757	836
10	Mitchell Starc	735	806

ODI Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Babar Azam	887	898
2	Rassie van der Dussen	787	796
3	David Warner	747	880
4	Quinton de Kock	743	813
5	Imam-ul-Haq	740	815
6	Shubman Gill	734	734
7	Virat Kohli	727	911
8	Steve Smith	719	752
9	Rohit Sharma	719	885
10	Kane Williamson	700	799

ODI Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Mohammed Siraj	729	736
2	Josh Hazlewood	727	733
3	Trent Boult	708	775
4	Mitchell Starc	665	783
5	Rashid Khan	659	806
6	Adam Zampa	655	655
7	Shakib Al Hasan	652	717
8	Shaheen Afridi	641	688
9	Mustafizur Rahman	638	695
10	Mujeeb Ur Rahman	637	712

T20I Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Suryakumar Yadav	906	910
2	Mohammad Rizwan	836	875
3	Babar Azam	778	896
4	Devon Conway	768	831
5	Aiden Markram	748	796
6	Dawid Malan	719	915
7	Muhammad Waseem	716	716
8	Rilee Rossouw	693	693
9	Aaron Finch	680	900
10	Glenn Phillips	662	703

T20I Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Wanindu Hasaranga	695	797
2	Rashid Khan	694	816
3	Adil Rashid	692	746
4	Josh Hazlewood	690	806
5	Sam Curran	688	688
6	Tabraiz Shamsi	681	821
7	Adam Zampa	678	743
8	Anrich Nortje	659	695
9	Mitchell Santner	657	731
10	Mujeeb Ur Rahman	654	745

Sorry state of affairs continues at several Indira Canteens in city

Dinner stopped at several such canteens due to poor patronage, pending electricity and water bills among other problems

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

From poor patronage to unavailability of electricity and water as a result of pending dues, the sorry state of affairs continues at Indira Canteens in the city.

Now, the contractors running the canteens have stopped serving dinner at nearly 35 Indira Canteens citing a fall in patronage during dinner time. A representative from one of the contractors supplying food to the canteens said, "During dinner time, footfall is very less at a few canteens. Most of the food gets wasted. The transportation to such places becomes a costly affair."

In December 2022, 15 mobile Indira Canteens were shut down citing lack of patronage. "We have already shut down operations of mobile canteens due to lack of patronage. The contractors running the canteens have reported a fall in patronage during dinner time.

BBMP is looking to shift Indira Canteens which are in less populated areas to densely populated areas to regain popularity. FILE PHOTO

Since the contract specifies them to provide at least 500 meals and there is no meaning in serving less than 50 people in many places, they have stopped offering dinner. Adamya Chetana has stopped serving dinner at 30 to 35 canteens," BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath said after presenting the Budget on Thursday.

Pending bills

Apart from this, pending electricity and water bills are other problems faced by the canteens, where a few canteens have had to face electricity and water supply being cut. A canteen near Arekere had to face power disconnection for almost four days. Later, the power connection was restored after the dues were paid by the contractor.

In February, Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) had cut water supply to some canteens for non-payment of bills.

A representative of the canteen contractor said that the BBMP has kept at least ₹30 to 40 crore payment pending for the vendor serving food and maintaining the canteen. Incidentally, the BBMP in its Budget presented on March 2 earmarked ₹50 crore for the canteens this year.

"From the past one year, the payment from the BBMP has been pending. We hope at least after the Budget announcement, the pending payment will be paid. We have been managing the canteens without payment," a representative said.

BBMP officials claimed that the popularity of the canteens has come down and hence, the civic body is looking to shift the canteens which are in less populated areas to densely populated areas. A BBMP official involved with the project said, "It is true that the canteens are not as popular as earlier, especially after the pandemic. We are looking at various ways to popularise the canteen and target more people in the coming days."

"One measure is to relocate canteens in lesser populated areas to densely populated areas, such as bus stands, railway stations, and market areas. The State Cabinet has given the nod for the move. The Urban Development Department (UDD) is conducting a survey," the official added.

KRISHNA BHAGYA JALA NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Under Taking)
Executive Engineer, KBJNL, NRBC, Division No.4, CHIKKAHONNAKUNI-584111.

No. KBJNL/NRBC/D-4/PB-1/TFC PH-II/ TND//2022-23/991 DATED:02/03/2023

SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

(Through e-procurement only)

On behalf of the Managing Director, KBJNL, Bengaluru, the Executive Engineer, KBJNL, NRBC Division No-4, Chikkahonnakuni invites percentage tenders from firms/companies/consultants who fulfill the pre-qualification criteria for the consultancy work as detailed in table below. The Two cover tender procedure as per rule 28 of KTPP act may/shall be followed. The tenderers are required to submit in Two separate sealed covers, the Ist cover containing EMD and the details of their capability to undertake the tender as detailed in Instruction to Tenderers Clause 1 & 4 which will be opened Ist and the IInd cover containing the price bid which will be opened only if the tenderer is found qualified to execute the tendered work. The tenderers are advised to note the minimum qualification criteria specified in Clause 4 of the Instructions to Tenderers to qualify for the award of the work. (The blank tenders can be obtained through website www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in and submitted through electronic tender box)

1) NAME OF WORK: Consultancy Service for Survey, Investigation, Preparation of Design, Drawing, Estimates and DTP's including filling up of 28 Nos., village Tanks from the River Krishna under Devadurga Taluka Phase-II (Indent No.24041) 2) Amount put to Tender: Rs. 84.10 Lakhs. 3)EMD : Rs.1.98 Lakhs (Transaction fee as per E-procurement Portal) 4)Period : 03 Months The details of events for the above works as per the notification are mentioned as below:-

1) The Contractors can have access to e-tendering documents from 03/03/2023 to 13/03/2023 from 10.00Am to 5.00 PM.2) Last Date of Receipt of the above Tenders is 13/03/2023 up to 5.00 PM.3) Cover-1 (Technical Bid) will be opened in the office of the Executive Engineer, KBJNL, Division No.4, Chikkahonakuni on 15/03/2023 @ 11.00 AM. 4) Cover-2 (Financial Bid) will be opened Electronically (Only selected in Technical Bid) in the office of the Executive Engineer, KBJNL, Division No.4, Chikkahonakuni on 17/03/2023 @ 11.00 AM.

For any information or clarification regarding conditions for the tenders please Contact www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in or office of the under signed during office hours on working days.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
KBJNL, NRBC, Division No.4,
CHIKKAHONNAKUNI-584111.

DIP/Raichur/690/K.S.M.C&A/2022-23

Thirteen of family injured in LPG cylinder blast

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Thirteen members of a family, including three minor children, suffered injuries in an LPG cooking gas cylinder blast accident at their residence in Moodalapalya on Friday.

The injured have been identified as Ajmal, 46, Nazeema, 42, Riyana, 14, Azwan, 12, Fayaz, 10, Ameenajaan, 52, Shabnam, 18, Naseema, 40, Salma, 33, Reshma Banu, 48 and three other relatives of the family.

There was a family function on Friday, for which the extended family had gathered at Ajmal's house. The women had prepared sweets for the function on Thursday night and fell asleep, probably without turning off the gas stove, it is now suspected. Nobody seems to have realised that there was a leakage throughout the night. Around 6 a.m. on Friday, when one of the family members switched on a light, there was a fire in the house.

Immediately, neighbours rushed in and saved all the residents. However, most of them suffered burns and are presently being treated at Victoria Hospital. The condition of two of them is said to be critical. Two fire tenders put out the fire. The intensity of the blast was so high that a portion of the wall of the house collapsed. Rajajinagar police have registered a case and are investigating the cause of the blast.

Bike-borne men accused of harassing mother and son

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In his complaint, the son stated that he was returning home with his mother at night. Three or four persons riding two bikes tried to ram into their car intentionally

A complaint has been registered at MICO Layout police station against bike-borne men, accusing them of attacking and intentionally trying to ram into a car in which a mother and son were travelling.

The alleged incident happened when the mother and son were returning home after dinner at a friend's home. Around 12.30 a.m. near Someshwara Temple in Anugraha Layout, bike-borne men allegedly attacked them. Through a series of posts on social media, the complainant narrated the incident and reached out to authorities.

In his complaint, he stated that he was returning home with his mother at night. Three or four persons riding two bikes tried to ram into their car intentionally. When he stopped the car, the accused allegedly tried to damage the vehicle. When the driver of the car tried to escape, the accused tried to block the path several times and followed them till Hulimavu police station.

"My mother was literally pleading for life. She is really anxious and shaken by this incident. What would have happened if I had hit someone when being chased. Kindly look into CCTV footage from Someshwara Temple to Meenakshi Mall," states one of the social media messages tagging the police by the complainant. The complainant also shared video footage of the incident.

DCP of South-East Division, C.K. Baba said that the jurisdictional police are investigating the case. "The police have identified the accused. Investigation is on. Based on the investigation, further action will be taken."

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Jennifer Varghese

Jennifer Varghese poised to join the head table

The 14-year-old paddler's international success has put her on the path to emulating Manika Batra's feats on the world stage. But she is not looking too far ahead – she wants to take it step by step

Stan Rayan

As a little girl in Nagpur, Jennifer Varghese used to accompany her parents to the Titans Table Tennis Academy near her home to pick up or drop her elder sister. The game soon caught her fancy and she began frequenting the club.

"The coach told me to practise, taught me to toss the ball. I played a few matches, then they were like, 'Let her continue'. I continued and now I'm here," said Jennifer during the Sub-junior Nationals in Alappuzha recently.

She has come a long way.

With her Nagpur coach Ujwal Wani advising her to aim higher after she won the under-12 National title in 2019, Jennifer moved to Chennai in August 2021 and began training under R. Rajesh at his academy in Thiruvanmiyur.

The 14-year-old is now the World No. 5 in the under-15 category and recently won the National singles title in that age bracket in Alappuzha.

But life was not easy for young Jennifer after the Chennai move.

"She came with a lot of potential, she was already the under-12 national champion then. But after that her game began to dip because she was growing tall very fast," said Rajesh, a former international.

"She grew five to six inches in about two years. When you shoot up so suddenly, it is not easy for anybody to adjust. It was a big headache for me and for her. Because when you see, the ball is suddenly at a different level.

> [Manika Batra] has inspired me a lot. Even if she fails or loses, she comes back stronger. That's the best thing I like about her
>
> **JENNIFER VARGHESE**

"The table, the vision of the ball... everything changes. She couldn't adjust. Technically, she had a lot of difficulty adjusting to her body and movements, and her confidence came down.

"It took us some time but she was always a very hard-working girl, very sincere and with a lot of potential. On top of that, she is someone who is willing to learn and willing to learn from her mistakes. That is very important for you to grow."

Once she settled into her 'new' 5'7" frame, Jennifer began producing results.

Last year, she won five international titles, including triumphs in World Table Tennis (WTT) Youth Contender series events in Morocco, Tunisia and the Czech Republic. She also played the Youth Worlds in December in Tunisia, where she entered the pre-quarterfinals, and finished the year as the under-15 World No. 4.

"The Czech event [June 2022] was memorable because I beat the World No. 4 from Romania in the final. And in Morocco [August 2022], I beat my clubmate Suhana Saini in the under-17 final," said Jennifer.

Rajesh is happy with the way she is shaping up. "She has been performing well this year. After two years she's slowly becoming the player I want her to be," he said.

2018 Commonwealth Games champion Manika Batra's progress has inspired many young girls; it has broken huge mental barriers too.

"She has inspired me a lot. Even if she fails or loses, she comes back stronger," Jennifer said about the current women's World No. 34. "That's the best thing I like about her. She might be losing but she still plays cool. In the Asian Cup [in Bangkok last November], she won the bronze medal [the first Indian woman to do so, beating Japan's World No. 6 Hina Hayata] after losing the semifinal [to Japan's World No. 2 Mima Ito]."

Growing like never before

Former eight-time national champion Kamlesh Mehta, now the secretary of the Table Tennis Federation of India, feels the women's game is growing like never before.

"Manika's performances will give the belief to others that they can also do it. And that's one of the major breakthroughs," said Kamlesh.

"There are now three to four women in the world's top 100...it has never been like that. Many of them are young, that's also a good thing. We have a very good crop of players who are doing well at every age category. That means that there is a flow, there is a line, so there is hope."

Clearly, Jennifer is one of them. Haryana's Suhana Saini, the under-17 World No. 7 who is also Rajesh's trainee in Chennai, also looks very promising. So does Maharashtra's Riana Bhoota, the under-13 World No. 3.

"I have been training Suhana for a long time and as far as I'm concerned she and Jennifer will be the Saina [Nehwal] and [P.V.] Sindhu of Indian table tennis. The kind of potential they have, the kind of strokes they play, leave alone the success, the way they play, their presence at the table, they have a very good future," said Rajesh.

"And Jennifer, if she grows up the right way, will break all barriers and may be as good as Manika."

Rajesh also feels the Ultimate Table Tennis league, held in India a few years ago, played a big role in taking the sport to new heights.

"Earlier, when our players were playing the Chinese or going for international meets, it was more for participation. They never really had any hope. That mindset has changed. I think the starting point of that mindset shift was the UTT," he said.

"We had the foreigners coming here and we were beating them. That was when the players started believing in themselves. Also the support from the Government, which made them play more tournaments, helped them to move up the rankings."

The Mumbai-born Jennifer, who has her roots in Thiruvalla in Kerala, is clear about her goals.

"First, it's the rankings, then Commonwealth Games, then Olympics... I'm taking it step by step," said the ninth standard student.

Rajesh has a special goal for her for this year.

> I have been training Suhana [Saini] for a long time and as far as I'm concerned she and Jennifer will be the Saina [Nehwal] and [P.V.] Sindhu of Indian table tennis
>
> **R. RAJESH**
> Coach of both Suhana and Jennifer

"My immediate target for her will be to try to get a medal at the Youth Worlds [Slovenia, Nov. 2023] which she missed out on last year. Also to maintain her Indian ranking," he said.

"After that, I want her to elevate to the next level, the under-19 and the women's since she is showing promise. From next year we may have to forego under-17 and focus on under-19. She has to focus on her recovery also, she can't be playing all the events all the time."

Attack is Jennifer's forte.

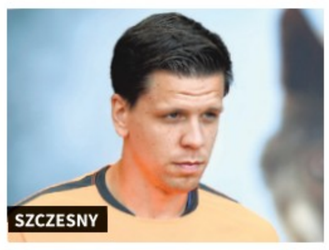
"Her strength is her attack, she is very good in the open game, in the rallies. She has some way to go to improve her service and reception. She is not tactically that strong but now she is learning to do that also," said her coach. "Ball to ball and rally to rally, she is superior to many."

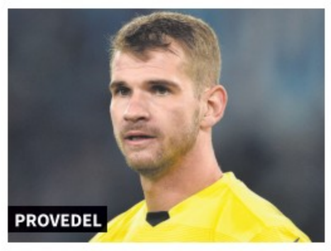
Rajesh feels that more Manikas popping up will help the sport immensely. "What Manika is achieving, we wish to see three to four people doing that at the age of 19 and 20," he said. "We don't want a lone performance, the next batch should be four to five... that will help you push up the rankings together and faster."

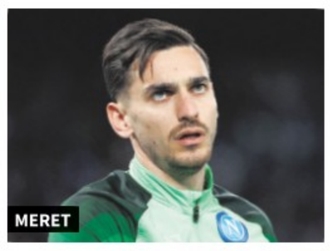
GAME THEORY

Top shot-stoppers in Serie A

We take a look at how often goalkeepers in Italy's top flight have made saves and kept clean sheets so far this season. The data show that only Ivan Provedel has made more than 2.5 saves per game and maintained a clean sheet percentage of at least 50%. In all, three keepers have shut the opposition out in at least half the games they have featured in







Goalkeeper	Club	Games	Saves	Saves per game	Clean sheets	Clean sheet %
Wojciech Szczesny	Juventus	17	35	2.06	10	58.8
Ivan Provedel	Lazio	24	64	2.67	13	56.5
Alex Meret	Napoli	24	45	1.88	12	50.0
Andre Onana	Inter	15	38	2.53	6	40.0
Rui Patricio	Roma	24	46	1.92	9	37.5
Juan Musso	Atalanta	18	49	2.72	6	33.3
Andrea Consigli	Sassuolo	22	39	1.77	7	31.8
Michele Di Gregorio	Monza	23	70	3.04	7	30.4
Guglielmo Vicario	Empoli	24	73	3.04	7	29.2
Marco Silvestri	Udinese	24	52	2.17	6	25.0
Ciprian Tatarusanu	Milan	16	40	2.50	4	25.0
Vanja Milinkovic-Savic	Torino	24	65	2.71	5	20.8
Luigi Sepe	Salernitana	17	57	3.35	3	17.6
Lukasz Skorupski	Bologna	24	74	3.08	4	16.7
Pietro Terracciano	Fiorentina	21	43	2.05	3	14.3
Bartlomiej Dragowski	Spezia	22	78	3.55	3	13.6
Marco Carnesecchi	Cremonese	15	58	3.87	2	13.3
Emil Audero	Sampdoria	24	78	3.25	3	12.5
Wladimiro Falcone	Lecce	24	81	3.38	3	12.5
Lorenzo Montipo	Hellas Verona	24	85	3.54	3	12.5

MINIMUM 10 STARTS | SOURCE: FBREF.COM

PICTURE THIS

STEPH CHAMBERS/GETTY IMAGES

Dog days

A musher steers his dogs past the Teton Range during the 106th American Dog Derby in Idaho recently.

The American Dog Derby claims to be the oldest dog-sled race in the United States, having been first held in 1917.

It was reportedly the first such event to rise to international prominence — from the 1920s to the 1950s, it was regarded to be on par with the Kentucky Derby and the Indy 500. Indeed, American Dog Derby mushers at that time were reportedly celebrities.

It has since been surpassed by the Iditarod, which is considered the world's biggest dog-sled race.

Sled dog racing — popular in the Arctic regions of the United States, Canada, Russia, Greenland and some European countries — involves highly trained dogs pulling sleds (wheel-less vehicles on runners) over snow or ice.

The courses are often brutal, with teams racing through blizzards and gale-force winds.

These harsh conditions have caused animal-rights activists — concerned about fatalities and injuries to dogs — to criticise the sport.

Sled dog racing has featured as a demonstration event in the Winter Olympics but has not gained official-event status.

Govt. extends 50% rebate window for pending traffic fines by 15 days

This follows the success of the 50% discount offered from February 3 to 11. During this nine-day period, nearly 42 lakh traffic violation cases were cleared, and over ₹121 crore was collected in Bengaluru alone

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka government has provided another 15-day window with a 50% rebate for penalties on traffic violation cases. The rebate will apply again from Saturday.

This follows the success of the 50% discount offered from February 3 to 11. During this nine-day period, nearly 42 lakh traffic violation cases were cleared, and over ₹121 crore was collected in Bengaluru alone.

The order issued by the Transport Department says the rebate will be applicable only to cases booked before February 11 and not later. FILE PHOTO

The rebate window was initiated acting on an advice by the Chairman, Karnataka Legal Services Authority to clear backlog cases and garnered a huge response. This prompted Bengaluru Traffic Police to write to the State government and Karnataka Legal Services Authority appealing to them to extend the rebate window. However, the window closed before a decision was taken on February 11.

The Transport Department issued an order on Friday providing another 15 days rebate window starting Saturday. The order says this rebate will be applicable only to cases booked before February 11 and not later. Motorists can check for cases pending against them in the Bengaluru Traffic Police website and pay the fines online on Karnataka One, digital payments portal Paytm and at all traffic police stations and traffic management centre in the city.

Music events at R.V. University

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Centre for Visual and Performing Arts, R.V. University, will present two music programmes on Saturday. Conversations with Tradition, a festival of music featuring Carnatic and Hindustani vocal jugalbandi by Aishvarya Vidya Raghunath and Priya Purushottaman will be presented at 5.30 p.m. followed by Journey with Kabir, featuring Prahlad Tipaniya and group, from 7.15 p.m. The event will be held on R.V. Teacher's College premises in Jayanagar.

One of RTC employees' unions threatens to go on indefinite strike

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

One of the Road Transport Corporation (RTC) employees' unions, the Karnataka State Road Transport Employees League, has threatened to go on an indefinite strike if the State Government fails to pay heed to their demands. At present, the members of the league and their family members are protesting at Freedom Park and on Friday, it entered its third day.

The primary demand is that salaries for RTC employees should be on a par with govt. employees

The primary demand of the protesters is that the State government should pay salaries to the RTC employees on a par with the government employees. R. Chandrashekar, the State president of the league, said that a deadline of 5 p.m. till Saturday is set for the government to make an announcement. If it fails to do so, a notice will be sent to the Labour Department informing about the indefinite strike after 14 days. On the other hand, the management of the KSRTC and heads of various other RTCs have held meetings with representatives of various Employees Unions on pending wage revision. Sources said that after the meeting, a report has been submitted to the State government.

Awareness session on risk management

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Risk Management Centre of Excellence (RMCoE) undertook an awareness session on Thursday titled "Trends in Process Safety and Risk Management" at Seminar Hall, Chemical Engineering Department (CED), Siddaganga Institute of Technology (SIT) campus in Tumkur.

The awareness session under the auspices of CED, SIT, Tumakuru touched upon the threats and opportunities facing the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). The interactive talk by Industry expert highlighted the latest trends in hazard identification, risk assessment techniques, risk-based decision-making processes-with learning provided through case studies.

BBMP launches animal rescue vehicles on World Wildlife Day

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) on Friday launched two rescue vehicles on the occasion of World Wildlife Day on Friday. According to BBMP officials, the vehicles will rescue ailing and injured animals in all the 243 wards of BBMP.

The BBMP chief commissioner Tushar Giri Nath launched the vehicles and said, "People who find an ailing animal can call the control room and immediately rescue vehicles will be sent to the spot to pick up the animal and take it to the nearest veterinary clinic for first aid and further treatment. Once the successful treatment is done, we will leave the animals to the forest."

BBMP has trained nine staff to give first aid to the animals on the spot. People can call the helpline number (08022225659 or 08022221188) for the rescue vehicles.

Central Coalfields Limited
"A Miniratna Company"
(A Subsidiary of Coal India Limited)

NOTICE

All the tenders issued by CIL and its Subsidiaries for procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on websites of Coal India Ltd. **www.coalindia.in**/ respective Subsidiary Company (CCL, **www.centralcoalfields.in**), CIL e-procurement portal **https://coalindiatenders.nic.in** and Central Public Procurement Portal **https://eprocure.gov.in** in addition, procurement is also done through GeM portal **https://gem.gov.in**

Will create a Bench to hear Karnataka hijab ban case: CJI

The Supreme Court is likely to list the case after the Holi vacations; students have to appear for their examinations on March 9 but the next working day of the top court is March 13

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud on Friday said he may "create a Bench" to hear the hijab ban case from Karnataka, though not actually zeroing in on a date of hearing.

The CJI initially assured the case would be listed on March 17. But the lawyer who mentioned the case said the students were having their examinations on March 9 and the court needed to hear the case before that date. The students had missed one year and this was the second year of studies and examinations.

The CJI reminded the lawyer that she was mentioning the case on the last day of working before the Supreme Court closes for Holi vacations. The next working day is March 13.

The lawyer said the case had been mentioned repeatedly before the court for early listing.

"I will create a Bench," the CJI replied.

Loud and clear: A file photo of students protesting government's rule of not allowing those wearing hijab to appear for exams.

"But the exams are on March 9" the lawyer said.

"I can't answer your questions. We will list the case," the CJI said.

On February 22, advocate Shadan Farasat, for the students, had urged the court to list and hear the case urgently as their academic future was at stake. "They have already lost a year. Though they are private college students, the exams are held in government institutions. Allow them to take part in the exams," Mr. Farasat had submitted.

"Why are they not being allowed to take their exams," the Chief Justice asked. "Because they are wearing head scarves..." Mr. Farasat replied.

A Supreme Court Bench of Justice Hemant Gupta (now retired) and Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia had delivered a split verdict in October last year on whether or not the students had a fundamental right to wear hijab in government institutions. On Wednesday, it was argued that the State authorities are counting with their prohibition of hijab in classrooms.

On January 23, the CJI, in an earlier mentioning, had assured the students to list the main hijab case before a larger Bench of three judges. At that time, the students were about to have their practicals on February 6.

'Reasonable restriction'
In the October judgment, Justice Gupta had upheld the Karnataka's prohibitive government order, saying "apparent symbols of religious belief cannot be worn to "secular" schools maintained from State funds. He had said 'secularity' meant uniformity, manifested by parity among students in terms of uniform. The judge had held that adherence to uniform was a reasonable restriction to free expression. The discipline re-inforced equality. The State had never forced students out of state schools by restricting hijab. The decision to stay out was a "voluntary act" of the student.

In his divergent opinion, Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia had said secularity meant tolerance to "diversity". Wearing or not wearing a hijab to school was "ultimately a matter of choice". For girls from conservative families, "her hijab is her ticket to education".

'Invasion of privacy'
"By asking the girls to take off their hijab before they enter the school gates, is first, an invasion of their privacy, then it is an attack on their dignity, and then ultimately it is a denial to them of secular education... There shall be no restriction on the wearing of hijab anywhere in schools and colleges in Karnataka," Justice Dhulia had held. Justice Gupta, in his opinion, had said students need to follow the discipline of wearing the school uniform without any "addition, subtraction or modification". A student cannot claim the right to wear a headscarf to a secular school as a matter of right. "A girl's right to express herself by wearing a hijab stopped at the school gate".

But Justice Dhulia countered that schools were public places. It was not correct to draw a parallel between a school and a jail or a military camp.

'Hijab not allowed in exam centres'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Ahead of II PU examinations starting on March 9, School Education and Literacy Minister B. C. Nagesh reiterated that students who wear hijab to the examination centres would not be allowed to appear for their exams. During the previous academic year, some students had not appeared for their II PU examinations as they were not allowed to wear hijab.

Talking to reporters in Bengaluru on Friday, Mr. Nagesh said, "We have made it clear that all students should come to the examination centres in uniform. Hijab is not a part of the uniform. Hence, those who wear a hijab will not be allowed to appear for the exams."

Although there is no exact number with the Education Department, the Minister said there was an improvement in the number of Muslim students who appeared for the examinations after the hijab ban. "Our figures show that after the hijab problem, the number of Muslim sisters who appeared for examinations and their enrolment ratio has increased," he added.

INBRIEF

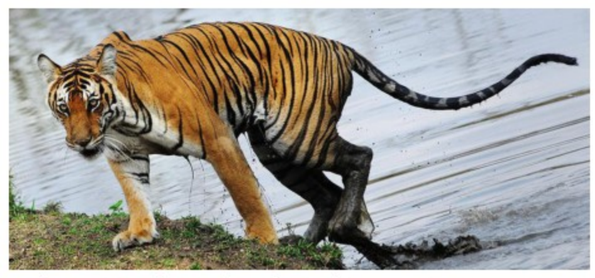
Consultation on rehabilitation of manual scavengers

National Law School of India University (NLSIU) on Friday organised a State-level consultation on the rehabilitation of manual scavengers.

The conference was inaugurated by the Chairman of the Karnataka State Safai Karamchari Commission M. Shivanna and said, "Rehabilitation of the identified manual scavengers should be time-bound without any delays in the formalities and procedures." The discussion was jointly organised by the Karnataka State Safai Karamchari Commission, Department of Social Welfare, Karnataka State Safai Karmachari Development Corporation, and NLSIU. It witnessed the presence of manual scavengers and social workers from a few districts of the State to discuss the rules drafted.

Samuel Sathyaseelan, a PhD scholar from Jawaharlal Nehru University, who also worked alongside the NLSIU on drafting the State rules said that the drafted rules would be submitted to the Department of Social Welfare after adding the necessary suggestions.

'Tiger mortality rate has increased in State'



Aadi Nagraj Gowda, member of United Conservation Movement, says that in the last one year, eight tigers have died in the Bandipur Tiger Reserve. FILE PHOTO

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

United Conservation Movement, a citizens group to protect forests, said that the tiger mortality rate has increased in Karnataka recently.

Aadi Nagraj Gowda, member of United Conservation Movement, on Friday, told reporters that in the last one year, eight tigers have died in the Bandipur Tiger Reserve.

"The tiger death ratio in the State has increased recently. In the last one year alone in Bandipur Tiger Reserve, eight tigers have died, two deaths have been reported as natural deaths citing that they were attacked by an elephant and a wild buffalo respectively. However in December 2022, a five-year-old male tiger's carcass was found 25 days after its death in Hediyala range in the same reserve. Why did it take so many days to find out that a tiger had died," Mr. Gowda questioned.

He said that in Nagarhole Tiger Reserve a tigress was snared to death leaving behind three tiger cubs. However, one cub died a few days later in the fringe area. "Why no action has been taken against those responsible for the tigresses death or any investigation done to find out how it got caught in a snarl?" he enquired.

Mr. Gowda also alleged that the forest department officials were giving more importance to wildlife safaris in the tiger reserves than carrying out patrolling. He also questioned the role of the Special Tiger Protection Force which was formed by the government to protect poaching of tigers in the reserves.

"We do not know what the Special Tiger Protection Force is doing in the tiger reserves. We want to know where they are deployed," he questioned.

Number of objective-type questions increased to 20 in II PU exam

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

In a bid to improve the pass percentage, Karnataka School Examination and Assessment Board (KSEAB) has decided to include 20 objective-type questions for one mark each in the II PU examination this year. Earlier, such questions were restricted to five or six questions.

Among these 20 objective-type questions, 12 will be multiple choice questions (MCQs) and the rest will be fill up the blanks and match the following and others. But for this change, the pattern will remain the same as earlier, Gopalakrishna H.N., Director for KSEAB, told *The Hindu*.

Why the method?
The change is said to be an attempt to improve pass percentage, which has not crossed 60% in Karnataka in II PUC exams. Every year, around 6 lakh students enroll for the II PUC examination.

Among questions, 12 will be MCQs and the rest will be fill up the blanks, match the following and others

At the same time, in Central board institutions like CBSE, Class XII (equivalent of II PU) students' passing percentage is more than 90%.

One of the reasons cited for higher pass percentage is greater emphasis on objective type and MCQ questions in the examination. Some neighbouring States have also adopted the same formula to improve the result.

Grace marks formula changed
A change in the evaluation system has also been finalised. While students would earlier get 5% grace marks for two subjects, one in language and another in core subject, they now get the same in any two subjects.

A student who obtains 210 out of 600 total marks will be eligible to get grace marks.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Mr. Gopalakrishna said, "We have modified some rules in the II PUC examination to improve the results. Increasing the number of objective type question and modification in grace marks and revaluation system will help to students and increase the entry of students into higher education in the State."

Grace marks extended this year for Class X
The Board has extended 10% grace marks to Class X students for three subjects this year too.

The students who score 219 out of a total of 625 marks will be eligible to get 10% grace marks for three subjects.

Chat with Karnataka School Exam and Assessment Board officials on March 7

#THTALKSBENGALURU

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

It is officially exam season. As the countdown to the II PU and class X board exams begins, #THTalksBengaluru provides students and parents with the opportunity of talking to officials from the Karnataka School Examination and Assessment Board.

On March 7, Prasanna Kumar, senior assistant director (examination) for Karnataka School Examination and Assessment Board, along with subject experts, will answer your questions as they participate in #THTalksBengaluru, a live chat with *The Hindu* and its readers from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

A file photo of students preparing for PU exams in Bengaluru.

They will answer a wide range of questions from examination phobia, exam preparations, concentration problems, to confusion in the subject.

You can send in your questions via mail (letters.bangalore@thehindu.co.in) or on Twitter handle (@THBengaluru) right away, apart from participating in the live chat on Tuesday.

Free bus ride for women on Women's Day?

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

To promote public transport among women, the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) is contemplating providing free rides for them on Women's Day. A proposal in this regard has been sent to the State Government, seeking its permission.

BMTC feels that the promotional activity would help get more patronage for city bus services and boost the image of the corporation. As per estimates, more than 20 lakh women passengers would travel that day. For this reach-out programme, the BMTC has to let go fare revenue of ₹8.17 crore. At present, on an average, 10.84 lakh women travel in city buses.

Timings
BENGALURU

SATURDAY, MAR. 04	
RISE 06:34	SET 18:29
RISE 16:04	SET 04:26
SUNDAY, MAR. 05	
RISE 06:33	SET 18:29
RISE 16:54	SET 05:10
MONDAY, MAR. 06	
RISE 06:33	SET 18:29
RISE 17:43	SET 05:50

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	33	22
Mysuru	33	13
Bengaluru	31	15

Bengaluru Today
31°C The weather will be dry. Morning will be cool with mist and haze. Day will be slight warm. Night also will be cool and hazy.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
32°C A dry weather to continue. Day will be warm and uneasy. Night will be slight cool with haze and mist.

© Copyright Skymet Weather 2023
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Foxconn team inspects location for iPhone manufacturing unit

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bengaluru is the preferred destination for global companies and the city has been a forerunner in attracting investment, acknowledged Young Liu, CEO and Chairman, Foxconn, the Taiwanese manufacturer of Apple smart phones.

Mr. Liu was here on Friday, March 3, leading a 17-member delegation from Foxconn to inspect the location for the proposed Apple phone manufacturing unit in the State. He also held a preliminary meeting with C.N. Ashwath Narayanan, Minister for IT and BT. The Minister appraised the delegation about the quality of IT & Technical education which is offered in the State, government's focus on skill development and the availability of trained human resources.

Foxconn, claimed to be the second largest manufacturer of Apple phones globally, was exploring to set up its factory close to an airport in the State. So, the delegation would be taken to show a parcel of 300 acres of land belonging to Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board at Doddaballapura, according to the Minister.

The company, once it sets up its manufacturing unit, would generate around 1 lakh jobs in Karnataka, Mr. Narayan said. He also informed the delegation that about 1.5 lakh engineering graduates were coming out from 270 engineering colleges in the state every year.

THE HINDU
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RFP Notice
SAI
Sports Authority of India, NSSC, Bangalore invites Request for Proposal (RFP) for following: -
SAI/NSSC/ENGG/NIT-8/2022-23 to Appoint a Management Operator to Operate & Maintain 3 nos. Lawn Tennis Clay Courts at SAI, NSSC, Bangalore.
For more details please visit E-Tender website
http://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app,
https://sportsauthorityofindia.nic.in/sai/,
http://saisouthbengaluru.org/
The Last date of Submission of E-Tender is 23.03.2023 up to 16.00 hrs.
Sd/-
Regional Director I/C

PRASAR BHARATI
INDIA'S PUBLIC SERVICE BROADCASTER
DOORDARSHAN KENDRA
BENGALURU-560006
e-mail: ddkbng.admn@gmail.com/ Tel: 080-23333204
Doordarshan Kendra, Bengaluru has invited quotations for " Hiring of Taxi and Cab Services on Monthly & Short Term Basis for the year 2023-2024 on GeM portal, BID No. GEM/2023/B/3195556 dated 27.02.2023. In this connection, a Pre-Bid meeting is scheduled at the Conference Hall of Doordarshan Kendra, J.C.Nagar, Bengaluru on **09.03.2023** at **12.00** Hrs ".
Last date for submitting the quotation is **20.03.2023** at **1200** Hrs.
-Sd/-
(B.N.ASHWINI)
Senior Administrative Officer
for Head of Office

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to notify the general public that, my Client, **Sri. R.SATISH CHANDRA** S/o Late Sri. T.S.Rajasekharaiah, residing at No. 73, 5th Cross, Behind HSBC Bank, Sarvabhouma Nagar, Bilekhahalli, Off: Bannerghatta Road **Bengaluru - 560 076** is the absolute owner of residential site bearing No. 57 at the Project **'Vakil Whispering Woods- Phase III"** carved out in **Sy.No.-104/1 of Madiwala Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District** measuring East to West: **18-00 Meters** and North to South: **12-00 meters** totally measuring **216-00 Square Meters** having purchased vide Sale deed dated: **04.11.2006,** registered as Document **No.25370/2006-07** in Book-1, Stored under CD No.172 in the Office of Sub- Registrar, Anekal Taluk from M/s. Vakil Housing Development Corporation Pvt.Ltd., Koramangala Bangalore by its Authorized representative Mr.Tanveer Pasha.
My Client has lost/misplaced the said Original Sale Deed dated: **04.11.2006** as detailed above while he was going to **Bannerghatta Road** for taking Xerox copies of the same **between 10.00 a.m. and 10.30 a.m. on 10th of September, 2020** and the complaint has also been lodged with the concerned Police through on line on **28.02.2023** and the same has been registered as E-Lost report **No.0486684/2023.**
Anybody finds the said Original Sale deed dated: **04.11.2006** pertaining to above mentioned Vacant Site /property; the same may be handed over to the undersigned or to Mico Layout Police station, Bangalore. Further, it is also warned that if any charge is created on the said Site/property basing upon the said original Sale deed despite of this notice, the same is not binding on my client and the said person/s is/are liable for criminal prosecution.
(U.L.SOMAPPA) Advocate & Notary
#708/41, Upstairs, Sree Ramanjaneya Road
Srinagar, Bangalore-560050.
(M) 94480 50108, 9880614954
Bangalore Dated: 03.03.2023

PUBLIC NOTICE
That my client **Smt. Pramila,** W/o. K.M.Jayarama Reddy, R/a.No.25, 1st Cross, 2nd Main Road, Sri Krishna Nagar, Kothanur, Bangalore-560 078, had lost the General Power of Attorney executed by Jayamma in her favour in respect of the schedule Property and she had already lodged the complaint before the concerned Police Station authorities and so far she has not received the same from the public.
That my client has requested the public that if anybody trace the said document, please hand over the same to her or to her said Advocate within 07 days of time and any person/s who handover the said GPA to my client or advocate will be suitably rewarded.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
Residential Property bearing **No.124,** Khatha No.96, presently BBMP Khatha No.105-91/96, situated at **KOTHANUR** Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Presently BBMP Limits, Ward No. 195, Bangalore, and bounded on the:
East by : House belongs to Nagaraja Nataraj
West by : Road
North by : House belongs to Narayanachari
Sout by : House belongs to Munivenkatappa
Sd/- **A.Manjunath** Advocate
No.924, 28th Main, 9th Block,
Jayanagar, Bangalore-560 069.
Ph: 9845395528

PUBLIC NOTICE
The General public is hereby notified that, my client **Sri.K.Narayana S/o Sri.Krishnappa** is interested and intending to purchase the agricultural **land measuring 2 acres 37 Guntas in Sy No.15/3 (Old Sy No.15/1) situated at Bhuhalli Village, Satanur Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagara District** from its owner namely **Smt.N.Kamala W/o Sri.Amarendra S** for a valuable sale consideration.
In view of the above, it is hereby notified that, claims of ownership or such other claims if any have in respect of the schedule property, the same may be notified to the address given below in writing together with supporting documents with in a period of **7 (seven) days** from the date of this notification. If no valid claims or objections are received within stipulated period, my client shall be at liberty to proceed with and complete the process of sale in respect of the aforesaid property. Claims/objections if any received on expiry of the stipulated period will be ignored.
A.T. MANOHAR, Advocate
No.55, 'SAISADANA', 13th'A'Cross,
Sarakki Gate, 1st Phase, J.P.Nagar,
Bangalore-78. Cell : 9902936363

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to the information of general public that my clients contracted to purchase the schedule property from Ms. C.S. Gayathri Devi, Ms. C.S. Uma Devi & Ms. C.S. Pushpalatha all daughters of late C.N. Shankaralingappa, at No.442, 3rd A-Main Road, Banashankari III Stage, Bengaluru-560 085.
Anybody having any claim or objection shall lodge their objection to the undersigned on or before ten days from the date of this notification.
SCHEDULE
Premises bearing BBMP Katha No.1, Old site No.47, situated at 8th Main Road, BSK 1st Stage, 2nd Block, Bengaluru measuring East to West 45 feet and North to South: 30 feet having RCC Building of about 1800 Sq.ft. and bounded on
East by : Property bearing No.73
West by : Road
North by : Property bearing No.48
South by : Property bearing No.46
K.T. DAKAPPA, Advocate
At No.64/1, SM Plaza I Floor,
DVG Road, Basavanagudi,
Bengaluru-560004.
Phone: 40901371

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PROPERTYPLUS
HOMES AND REAL ESTATE NEWS

thehindu.com/features/homes-and-gardens
THE HINDU

Shopping for a new or resale home?

Some points for homebuyers to check besides timely delivery and risk-free investment, according to **Akash Pharande**

HOME PURCHASE

If you're on the market for a home this year, you will doubtlessly have wondered whether a resale flat will fulfil your needs just as well as a new one. It's a natural conundrum – resale homes are generally (though not always) cheaper than a newly-constructed or under-construction one. The exception is when the resale home is in a project or location which has a lot of demand and next to no supply.

What is the right option? First, let's see the reasons why homebuyers may consider a resale home the better option.

Pros of resale homes

1. They're cheaper, except in the instances already mentioned above. The property is fully constructed and ready to move in, so what you see is what you get.

2. The neighbourhood will be an established one, so it's easier to determine how well you and your family fit into it, or it may be highly aspirational.

Some locations are 'vanity pincodes' where owning any home – even an old one – seems very desirable.

3. If the property is very old, it may eventually come up for redevelopment, in which case its value can increase.

4. Common problems that beset apartments, such as leakage and seepage, are apparent (except if the current owner has managed to cover such flaws convincingly while the property is on the market).

The cons

1. Older properties will have experienced wear and tear, which depreciates the value (this is why they're cheaper).

2. There are invariably costly renovations and repairs necessary, and older homes also cost more to maintain.

3. Older buildings do not have any of the modern amenities and facilities, which most homebuyers take for granted these days.

5. There may not be reserved parking. Premises developed even 15 years earlier were built for a world where personal vehicles were relatively fewer.

6. If the property is several decades old, banks may not agree to grant a home loan on it.

Obviously, there are also pros and cons to buying a home in a new project, which did not have any previous owners and may be ready to move in or still under construction.

Homebuyers today are extremely savvy. Construction risks are easily negated by picking the right developer and project.

By choosing a new home in a properly planned township, they ensure that the window view will not change.

Reputed developers stand by their products and offer high-grade after-sales service, which takes care of any flaws that may emerge after purchase.

Moreover, buyers of new homes can get various discounts and offers which are not available in resales. In under-construction projects, prices are lower than for ready-to-move-in options. Also, if the location is still growing (which is often not the case while buying resale homes), prices will appreciate in tandem with new social and civic infrastructure.

Construction risks are easily negated by picking the right project. Reputed developers stand by their products and offer high-grade service, which takes care of any flaws that may emerge after purchase

Pros of new constructions

1. The appeal of buying something brand new – be it a car, electronic gadget, jewellery or a home – cannot be emulated by buying a resale home.

2. The project will tend to have the latest amenities and facilities.

3. It will have adequate parking, or it wouldn't be marketable in this day and age, and also electric charging points for Evs.

4. The project is very much more environmentally sustainable and cost efficient – it will have solar heating, rainwater harnessing and modern waste disposal.

5. It will command higher resale value if the owner wants to sell it sometime in the future.

The cons

1. If the project is under construction, the homebuyer will have to wait until it is completed before he/ she can move in and enjoy the new home.

2. If the project is being built by a smaller/ under-funded developer, there is always a risk that it may get delayed or even not be completed at all.

3. Problems like leakage and seepage will not be evident when the property is still new.

4. While the price of an under-construction flat will be competitive and often in line with that of a good resale flat, ready-to-move-in homes in new constructions cost more than resales.

5. If the project is built on a smaller plot, that unobstructed window-view you have at the time of purchase may change drastically in the future as the area develops further.

The above points are by no means exhaustive, but serve to give a fair idea of what's at stake. No doubt, the price difference between new and resale homes plays a significant role. It can be as little as 3-5% or as high as 25-30% – much depends on the builder's brand, quality of construction, and location characteristics.

In the case of resale properties in highly aspirational neighbourhoods, there may be no difference at all.

The price difference will also depend on the stage of construction of the project; it will narrow as the project nears completion. But as we have seen over the past two to three years, price is no longer the main criterion for a large majority of homebuyers today.

As an investment, under-construction homes are nearly always the superior option.

At the end of the day, homes are bought as investments for future financial stability and potentially even gain.

This is why most of the demand today is for newly-constructed or under-construction projects by good developers who deliver what they promise.

The writer is Managing Director, Pharande Spaces.

Programme to upskill construction workers

In the Union Budget 2023, the Central government announced that PMKVY 4.0 will be launched to skill lakhs of youth and set up 30 Skill India International centres across different Sates. Skilled labour force is imperative for the real estate industry to grow and CREDAI, the apex body of private real estate developers in India, has enrolled more than 7,000 workers under NIPUN (National Initiative for Promotion of Upskilling of Nirman workers), a unique rogramme for the construction workforce under the Union Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs..

The government and MoHUA have identified skill shortages in the construction workforce and have taken an initiative to train them with individual needs in mind. A nationally recognised certificate is awarded by NSDC following an 80-hour training programme and a third-party assessment. This certificate gives the labourers, who have never received any official training or skilling, a sense of pride and confidence.

"More than 2 lakh construction workers have benefitted from our initiatives since 2011 and under NIPUN, we plan to upskill 20,000 workers. We thank MoHUA for rolling-out NIPUN when the construction sector in India is growing at a rapid pace," said Harsh Vardhan Patodia, president, CREDAI.

REAL ESTATE

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TAMILNADU TIRUVANNAMALAI 5.17Acr NH–66, 9 Km Arunachala Temple,7 Km Ramanashramam,,5 Km Hill Round Way, 3 Km Outer Ring Rd,Ideal for Hotels, Resorts, Ashrams,Educational Purposes, Beautiful Hill View. 9840651404

FARMHOUSE / LAND /RESORTS
KODAIKANAL, 2 Acres of Land for sale, off Observatory Road. Land good for Building Guest Houses, Villas & Resorts. Contact: 86678–98548

RESIDENTIAL FLAT – NEW
COCHIN-TRIPUNITHURA-2200 SQFT 4BHK Luxury Flat-10 Storey, 20 Flats in Total, Prime Location, Reputed Builders. 9995479500

RESIDENTIAL LAND
KODAIKANAL, NEXT to Kodai International Hotel, 25 cents with cottage for sale. Ct: 86678–98548

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What better way to show love & gratitude to the Special Beings WOMEN'S DAY

in our lives who bears, moulds, nurtures and builds us.
Women deserve this and much more for the multitude of roles.

Gift HER a HOME and expect ASSURED GIFTS on every booking*!

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DS-MAX SAMYAK - Rs. 37.45 - 64.04 Lacs* - Rs. 3,500 / Sq. Ft.*
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PRM/KA/RERA/1251/309/PR/220223/005748
THANISANDRA
BELLAHALLI

DS-MAX SHRESTA - Rs. 37.60 - 52.68 Lacs* - Rs. 4,000 / Sq. Ft.
2 & 3-BHK | BBMP APPROVED | G+4 FLOORS - 10 MINS. FROM MANYATA TECH PARK

LESS THAN 5 MINUTES - RENOWNED EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, HOSPITALS, BUS STOPS & PROPOSED METRO STATIONS.

*Women's Day Offer is Valid till 12th of March

1, 2 & 3-BHK APARTMENTS FOR SALE IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS

PRM/KA/RERA/1251/308/PR/201201/003733
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HOSA ROAD JUNCTION
₹ 3,500 / Sq. Ft.
₹ 35.00 - 39.37 Lacs*
9164 045 000

PRM/KA/RERA/1251/309/PR/211209/004576
YELAHANKA
ISRO LAYOUT PH-II
₹ 4,200 / Sq. Ft.
₹ 37.46 - 64.68 Lacs*
8880 758 758

PRM/KA/RERA/1251/446/PR/110722/005059
BEGUR
10 MINS. SILK BOARD
₹ 4,000 / Sq. Ft.
₹ 31.96 - 46.48 Lacs*
8880 472 472

PRM/KA/RERA/1251/308/PR/290122/004660
SARJAPURA
SARJAPUR - ATTIBELE RD.
₹ 3,000 / Sq. Ft.
₹ 29.04 - 37.35 Lacs*
9164 122 000

PRM/KA/RERA/1251/309/PR/180120/001878
THANISANDRA
NR. MANYATA TECH PARK
READY TO OCCUPY
₹ 1.20 - 1.49 Crores*
8088 779 779

PRM/KA/RERA/1251/308/PR/280222/004739
CHANDAPURA
NR. NARAYANA H CITY
₹ 3,000 / Sq. Ft.
₹ 27.45 - 37.20 Lacs*
8880 013 310

PRM/KA/RERA/1251/446/PR/210312/004002
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NR. GARDEN CITY UNIV.
₹ 4,000 / Sq. Ft.*
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A BG-BGE

Rural Drinking Water and Sanitation Department

Office of the Chief Engineer, RWS&SD, First Floor, "E" Block, KHB Complex, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru-560 009, Ph: 080-22533700, e-mail: cerws14@gmail.com

No:RDWSD/12/SBM-G/2022 Date: 03-03-2023

SHORT TERM TENDER INVITATION

Rural Drinking Water and Sanitation Department, Govt. of Karnataka invites **Short Term Tender** in Karnataka Public Procurement Portal **(https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in)** from eligible bidders in two cover system (Technical and Financial bid) for Empanelment of OEM/Authorised Dealer for Supply and Installation of GPS & GPRS Based Vehicle Tracking Unit for all SWM Vehicles with Monitoring Software. The last date for submission of bids through e-portal is **18-03-2023 before 4.00 PM.** EMD Amount is **Rs.1,00,000/-.**

Sd/- Tender Inviting Authority
RDW&SD, Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/BCPL/5052/2022-23

District Health and Family Welfare Office Complex, Tumkur-572101

District Programme Project Mannagement Unit.

E-mail:dhotumkur1@gmail.com dpmtmk@gmail.com

No.DPMU(T)/NHM/MPT/1/2023-24 Date:27.02.2023

Invitation of Tender.

National Health Mission Tumkur invites the E-Procurement for the supply of Man Power on outsource basis for the year 2023-24.

The tender schedule is as follows under the e-procurement system. **Details: (1)** Start date and time for submitting tenders: Date: **27.02.2023** Time after 4.00 PM **(2)** Last date and time for submitting tenders: Date: **28.03.2023** Time after 4.00 PM **(3)** Technical Bid opening date and time Date: **29.03.2023** Time after 4.00 PM **(4)** Tender opening Authority: District Health Society Tumkur. **(5)** E.M.D. Value: **Rs.8.85/-** Lackhs. (Submitting through e-procurement) **(6)** Tender Value **Rs.3.53/-Crores.** For more information Contact: **Mob:9449843210**

Sd/- Member Secretary,
District Health Society, Tumkur.

DIPR/TUM/1035/KSMCA/2022-23

MANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED

(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
O & M Circle Office, Shakthi Soudha, Bondel, Mangalore - 575 015
Ph: 0824-2443549/2444915 | CIN: U40109 KA 2002 SGC 030425

NO: SEE/MNG/EE(O)/AEE-2/2022-23/10369-370 Date: 27.02.2023

TENDER NOTIFICATION (E-Procurement Portal Only)

MESCOM invites tenders vide respective bid enquiries as below for the following works on Partial Turnkey basis in the jurisdiction of Bantwala Division.

Sl. No.	Bid Enquiry No	Nomenclature of the work
1.	MESCOM/2022-23/ EL/WORK_INDENT2073	Reconductoring of old deteriorated squirrel/weasel ACSR conductor by Rabbit conductor of LT circuits of various transformers in **Mudipu** section of Bantwal-1 Sub-Division, Bantwal Division.
2.	MESCOM/2022-23/ EL/WORK_INDENT2074	Reconductoring of old deteriorated squirrel/weasel ACSR conductor by Rabbit conductor of LT circuits of various transformers in **Farangipete** section of Bantwal-1 Sub-Division, Bantwal Division.
3.	MESCOM/2022-23/EL/ WORK_INDENT2075	Reconductoring of LT lines of various transformers in **Kepu Village** in Ukkuda section of Vitla Sub-Division, Bantwal Division
4.	MESCOM/2022-23/EL/ WORK_INDENT2076	Providing Additional Transformers at various places in **Kepu** Village of **UKKUDA** Section, Vitla Subdivision of Bantwal O&M Division.

The detailed tender notification information can be obtained by logging on to **http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in on or after 04.03.2023.** Any further details can be obtained from the undersigned during office hours.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Ele), O&M Circle, Mangaluru

For Power Related Complaints & Assistance Call Toll Free Number 1912

KRISHNA BHAGYA JALA NIGAM LIMITED

(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)

Office of the Executive Engineer, KBJNL, ALBC Division,Almatti-586201.
Tq:B.Bagewadi Dt: Vijayapur. Phone:08426-281044,

No:KBJNL/ALBC-DN/DM/TND/Canal AME works/2022-23/3119
Date: 27.02.2023

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-procurement only)

On behalf of the Managing Director, KBJNL, Bangalore, the Executive Engineer KBJNL, ALBC Division Almatti the under undersigned invites tender on **Percentage basis** in **Single cover** system in **KW- 2** documents from **KPWD Class-II and above with laboure registered** contractors for the work **AME works**. **Indent No. 23240, 23280, 23278 & 23279**. Approx. amount put to tender: **Rs. 144.48 lakhs**.

The contractor can have access and submission of completed e-tender document of from **02.03.2023 to 10.03.2023** up to 5.00 pm. The Cover –I (Technical & Financial bid) will be opened in the under signed office on **13.03.2023** at 11.00 AM.

The rights of acceptance/rejection of tender at any time, without giving any reason had with undersigned. Further information about electronic tendering can be had from http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in/eportal/ines.seam and www.kbjnl.karnataka.gov.in **and can be had from the office of undersigned during office hours.**

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/974/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/2022–23

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
KBJNL, ALBC Division, Almatti

Government of Karnataka
Office of The Executive Engineer,
Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Department,
Mandya Division, Mandya, Phone: 08232-222363,
email:eerwsmdy@gmail.com

No:EE/RDW&SD/MDY/22-23/JJM TENDER/2022-23/2985
Dated:28-02-2023

1.Short Term Re Tender Notification NO-09/2022-23 (Two Cover System)
2.Short Term Re Tender Notification NO-11/2022-23 (Two Cover System) (e-procurement portal)

On behalf of Governor of Karnataka, The E.E, R.D.W & S Division, Mandya invited tender for Providing FHTCs Works in Nagamangala & Malavalli Tq in Mandya District from eligible bidders. Pre-Bid Meeting **Dt:06.03.2023 Time:11:00 AM (Place:O/O EE, RDWSD, Mandya),** Last Date & Time for Receipt of Bids:**08.03.2023 Time :05:30** PM, Date & Time of Technical Bid Opening: **09.03.2023 Time:05:35 PM**. Date & Time of Financial Bid Opening:**16.03.2023 Time:11:00 AM**. Amount Put to tender Maximum:**Rs.201.12 Lakhs**. More details can be obtained through e-procurement portal of Govt of karnataka **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** or from this office during working hours.Phone **No: 08232-222363**

Sd/-Executive Engineer
Rural Drinking Water and Sanitation Division, Mandya

DIPR/AD-MDY/KSMCA/741 /2022-23

KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED

(A Government of Karnataka Enterprises)
Office of the Executive Engineer, KNNL, IPC. Division No.1, Kalaburagi

No.EE/KNNL/IPCD-1/KLGB/PB-6/2022-23/2492 Date:28.02.2023

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through -E-Procurement)

On behalf of the Managing Director, KNNL Bengaluru, the Executive Engineer, KNNL IPC Division No,1 Kalaburagi, invites the Turnkey Basis tender for 01 work of Ainapur Lift Irrigation Scheme coming under Lower Mullamari Project under 4701 Head of account for the year 2022-23. Indent No.36222 in Two cover system. The tender calendar of events are as below.

Events & Dates : 1) Amount put to tender : **Rs. 105.59 Crores.** 2) EMD Amount: **Rs. 1.06 Crores.** 3) Access to e-Tender document : **02.03.2023 to 10.03.2023 up to 5.00 PM,** 4) Pre bid meeting and Queries (if any) submission details 07.03.2023 at 11.30 AM in the office of the Chief engineer, KNNL, IPZ, Kalaburagi. and Queries (if any) submission date is **07.03.2023 up to 5.00 PM.** 5) The last date & Time for receipt of tenders: **10.03.2023 upto 5.00 PM**, 6) Opening of Technical bid : **13.03.2023 at 11.30 AM** in the office of the Executive Engineer KNNL IPC Division No.1 Kalaburagi. 7) Opening of Financial bid **17.03.2023 at 11.30 AM** or after approval of Technical bid.

Further additional information can be had by visiting website **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** and the office of the under signed during office hours (Phone No 08472-220590). All other terms and conditions as per original tender notification.

Sd/- EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
KNNLIPC DIVISION NO.1, KALABURAGI

DIPR/Kalaburagi/1411/MC&A/2022-23

BIDAR URBAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, BIDAR

Udgir Road, Naubad, Bidar-585402, Email : udabidar@gmail.com
Telephone No. 08482-232707

No: BUDA/C.A.S/Allotment/CR-2/2022-23/1550 Date:02/03/2023

-: AMENDED NOTIFICATION :-

Bidar Urban Development Authority has published a notification for the allotment of Civic Amenity Sites following amendment is made in the notification dated:27-02-2023 as follows.

Sl. No.	Details as per the Notification dated:27-02-2023	Amended Details
1.	Prescribed registration Form-I and Form-II available at the Bidar Urban Development Authority office from within Date:01-03-2023 to Date:20-03-2023 by paying a sum of Rs.5,000/- at office hours. And, the filled-Up Form-1 and Form-2 with the prescribed registration fee and with initial deposit amount have to be submitted and reached to this office within dated:28-03-2023 at 5.00PM.	Prescribed registration Form-I and Form-II available at the Bidar Urban Development Authority office from within Date:01-03-2023 to Date: 18-03-2023 by paying a sum of Rs.5,000/- at office hours. And, the filled-Up Form-1 and Form-2 with the prescribed registration fee and with initial deposit amount have to be submitted and reached to this office within dated:20-03-2023 at 1.00PM.

The submission of Form-I and Form-II last date and time is changed only. So all the terms and condition mentioned in the previous notification on dated:27-02-2023 will be same.

Sd/- Commissioner,
Bidar Urban Development Authority, Bidar.

DIPR/Bidar/496-1/MC&A/2022-23

FISHERIES & ANIMAL RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, GOVT. OF ODISHA
DIRECTORATE OF FISHERIES, ODISHA, CUTTACK

Website: https://odishafisheries.nic.in , https://dahvs.odisha.gov.in
Phone : 0671-2414061, Email:director.odifish@gmail.com

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

RFP No. 3486 Dated : 01.03.2023.

Fisheries & Animal Resources Development Department, Odisha intends to engage a media consulting agency for IEC strategy and creative productions for smooth operationalisation of the IEC activities taken up by the two Directorates i.e. Directorate of Fisheries and Directorate of AH&VS under the F&ARD Deptt. Hence, Director of Fisheries, Odisha, Cuttack of Department of Fisheries & Animal Resources Development, Odisha invites sealed proposal from the eligible bidders having their office in Odisha for "media consulting agency for IEC strategy and creative productions" under the administrative control of Director of Fisheries, Odisha, Cuttack.

The RFP Document containing ***details of scope of work, professional requirements and other bidding parameters*** can be accessed and downloaded from the website of Directorate of Fisheries, Directorate of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services, Odisha at **https://odishafisheries.nic.in, https://dahvs.odisha.gov.in & tendersodisha.gov.in**

Important dates for the bidding process:

Sl.No.	Critical Events	Time Line
1	Date of Issue of RFP	03.03.2023
2	Last Date and Time for Submission of Bid	24.03.2023 upto 5.30 PM
3	Opening of Technical Bid	27.03.2023 at 11.30 AM
4	Technical Presentation	31.03.2023 at 3.30 PM
5	Opening of Financial Bid	06.04.2023 at 3.30 PM

The proposal complete in all respects in a sealed envelope clearly mentioning on the top of it **" Selection Of A Media Consulting Agency For IEC Strategy And Creative Productions "** must reach the undersigned through **Speed Post / Registered Post** or can be dropped in the tender box placed at Directorate of Fisheries, Odisha, Mangalabag, Cuttack latest by **24.03.2023 upto 5.30 PM.** The proposals received beyond the scheduled last date and time shall not be considered and will be outrightly rejected. Further, the authority reserves the right to reject any/all proposals without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/-
Director of Fisheries

M-88: OIPR-06030/11/0024/2223

ಕರಾಸಕೈಅನಿನಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸಣ್ಣ ಕೈಗಾರಿಕೆಗಳ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ

(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಒಂದು ಉದ್ಯಮ)
ನೊಂದಾಯಿತ ಕಛೇರಿ : ಆಡಳಿತ ಕಛೇರಿ ಕಟ್ಟಡ, ಕೈಗಾರಿಕಾ ವಸಾಹತು, ರಾಜಾಜಿನಗರ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು –560 010
ಫೋನ್/ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್: 91–080–23143566/23389070 ಇ–ಮೇಲ್ : kssidcho@karnataka.gov.in ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ : www.kssidc.co.in

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಸಮನ್ವಯ:ಮೈ.ವಿ:ಮಳಿಗೆ:ನಿವೇಶನ:ಹಂಚಿಕೆ:ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ:2023/01 ದಿನಾಂಕ:02–03–2023

ಕೈಗಾರಿಕಾ ಮಳಿಗೆ/ನಿವೇಶನ/ವಾಣಿಜ್ಯ ಸಂಕೀರ್ಣಗಳ ಹಂಚಿಕೆಗಾಗಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ನಿಗಮದ ಮೈಸೂರು ವಿಭಾಗದ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬರುವ ವಿವಿಧ ಕೈಗಾರಿಕಾ ವಸಾಹತುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಲಭ್ಯವಿರುವ ಕೈಗಾರಿಕಾ ಮಳಿಗೆ/ನಿವೇಶನಗಳನ್ನು ಯಥಾಸ್ಥಿತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹಂಚಿಕೆ ಮಾಡಲು ಆಸಕ್ತ ಉದ್ದಿಮೆದಾರರುಗಳಿಂದ ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ವಿವರಗಳು ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತಿವೆ.

ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಮತ್ತು ಕೈಗಾರಿಕಾ ವಸಾಹತು ಹೆಸರು	ಮಳಿಗೆ/ನಿವೇಶನ/ಗೋದಾಮು/ಸಂಕೀರ್ಣ ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣ ಚ.ಮೀ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ	ಪ್ರವರ್ಗ	ಪ್ಲ್ಯಾಟ್/ನಿವೇಶನ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ		ಮಳಿಗೆ/ನಿವೇಶನ/ಗೋದಾಮು/ಪ್ಲ್ಯಾಟ್‌ಗಳ ತಾತ್ಕಾಲಿಕ ಮೌಲ್ಯ		ಅರ್ಜಿ ಜೊತೆ ಪಾವತಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ಇಎಂಡಿ/ಭದ್ರತಾ ಠೇವಣಿ	
			ಪ್ಲ್ಯಾಟ್	ನಿವೇಶನ	ದರ ಚ.ಮೀ.ಗೆ (ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಒಟ್ಟು ಮೌಲ್ಯ (ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ಪ್ರವರ್ಗ ದವರಿಗೆ ಶೇ.10 ರಂತೆ (ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಪ.ಜಾ/ಪ.ಪಂ ಪ್ರವರ್ಗ ದವರಿಗೆ ಶೇ.5 ರಂತೆ (ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)
1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8
ಮೈಸೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ								
ನಂಜನಗೂಡು	421.74	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	ಸಿ–6		4000	2713000	271300	135650
ಮಂಡ್ಯ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ								
ಪಾಂಡವಪುರ	334.88	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		ಆರ್–1	3700	1239056	123906	61953
	234.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		ಸ್ಪೆಷಲ್–3	3700	865800	86580	43290
ಸೋಮನಹಳ್ಳಿ	144.59	ಪ.ಜಾತಿ	ಎಸ್.ಎಂ–5		5000	1384200	--	69210
ಶ್ರೀರಂಗಪಟ್ಟಣ	370.65	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	ಸಿ–40		5000	3197300	319730	159865
ನಾಗಮಂಗಲ	378.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	ಸಿ–3		3000	2096500	209650	104825

ನಿಗದಿತ ಅರ್ಜಿ ನಮೂನೆಗಳನ್ನು ನಿಗಮದ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ವಿವಿಧ ಸ್ಥಳಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಇರುವ ಮಳಿಗೆ/ನಿವೇಶನಗಳ ವಿವರಗಳಾದ ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣ, ತಾತ್ಕಾಲಿಕ ಮೌಲ್ಯ, ಮುಂಗಡ ಠೇವಣಿ ಮೊಬಲಗು, ಪರಿಶೀಲನಾ ಶುಲ್ಕ, ನೀಡಲಾಗುವ ಸಹಾಯಧನ, ಹಂಚಿಕೆಯ ಷರತ್ತು ಮತ್ತು ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಇತರೆ ಸಮಗ್ರ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ಸಹಾಯಕ ಪ್ರಧಾನ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕರು (ಕೈ.ವ) / ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕರು(ಕೈವ) ಸಹಾಯಕ ಪ್ರಧಾನ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕರು(ಸಮನ್ವಯ), (ಮೊಬೈಲ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಗಳನ್ನು ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ನೀಡಲಾಗಿದೆ) ರವರಿಂದ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಸದರಿ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ನಿಗಮದ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ **www.kssidc.co.in** ನಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ವೀಕ್ಷಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು ಅರ್ಜಿ ಶುಲ್ಕ, ಮುಂಗಡ ಠೇವಣಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಅಗತ್ಯ ದಾಖಲಾತಿಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 05–04–2023ರ ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 5–00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆವಿಗೆ** ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ಸಹಾಯಕ ಪ್ರಧಾನ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕರು(ಕೈವ) ವಿಭಾಗೀಯ/ಶಾಖಾ ಕಛೇರಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/–
ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಾಪ್ರ/ಜಿಎ/5043/2022–23

(Govt of Karnataka)
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER P.W.D DIVISION SEDAM

No. EE/PWD/Dvn/Sed/TS- 1/2022-23/4395 Date : 28-02-2023

-:: SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION ::-

1) Details of Works : 1. Total no of work 01 in Sedam taluka Indent No's are as follows: Under RIDF NABARD-28- 166399, 2. Total no of work 04 in Chittapur taluka Indent No's are as follows: Under 2059-Maintenance Work -164628 and 8443-Deposit Work -163140, 163141 & 164610. 2) Head of Account: Under 2059- Maintenance Work, RIDF NABARD-28 & 8443-Deposit Contribution for the year 2022-23. 3) Amount Put to Tender : Lowest Estimate Cost : **Rs. 5.90 Lakhs, Highest Estimate Cost Rs. 400.00 Lakhs,** 4) Legibility of Contractor : Class-4 contractor & Above, 5) Pre-Bid Meeting Date : **07-03-2023 - 11:30:00 Hrs**, 6) Last date & time for Tender Queries & receipt of tenders : **09-03-2023 - 17:30:00 Hrs** 7) Tender Form Fee & EMD Amount: Tender processing fee & EMD As per e-portal, 8) Last date & time for receipt of tenders : **10-03-2023 - 16:00:00 Hrs,** 9) Date & Time for Opening of Technical Bid: **13-03-2023 - 16:30:00 Hrs,** 10) Date & Time for opening of Financial Bid : **14-03-2023 - 16:30:00 Hrs,** 11) Communication Address: Office of the Executive Engineer P.W.D Division Sedam, 12) Internet Address: **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in**, 13) If any changes for Cancelation : Any Changes and cancelations are done in: **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
P.W.D Division Sedam

DIPR/Kalaburagi/1405/MC&A/2022-23

ಕರಾಸಕೈಅನಿನಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸಣ್ಣ ಕೈಗಾರಿಕೆಗಳ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ

(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಒಂದು ಉದ್ಯಮ)
ನೊಂದಾಯಿತ ಕಛೇರಿ : ಆಡಳಿತ ಕಛೇರಿ ಕಟ್ಟಡ, ಕೈಗಾರಿಕಾ ವಸಾಹತು, ರಾಜಾಜಿನಗರ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು –560 010
ಫೋನ್/ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್: 91–080–23143566/23389070 ಇ–ಮೇಲ್:kssidcho@karnataka.gov.in ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ : www.kssidc.co.in

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಸಮನ್ವಯ:ಬೆಂ.ವಿ:ಮಳಿಗೆ:ನಿವೇಶನ:ಹಂಚಿಕೆ:ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ:2023/03 ದಿನಾಂಕ:02–03–2023

ಕೈಗಾರಿಕಾ ಮಳಿಗೆ/ನಿವೇಶನ/ವಾಣಿಜ್ಯ ಸಂಕೀರ್ಣಗಳ ಹಂಚಿಕೆಗಾಗಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ನಿಗಮದ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ವಿಭಾಗದ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬರುವ ವಿವಿಧ ಕೈಗಾರಿಕಾ ವಸಾಹತುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಲಭ್ಯವಿರುವ ಕೈಗಾರಿಕಾ ಮಳಿಗೆ/ನಿವೇಶನಗಳನ್ನು ಯಥಾಸ್ಥಿತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹಂಚಿಕೆ ಮಾಡಲು ಆಸಕ್ತ ಉದ್ದಿಮೆದಾರರುಗಳಿಂದ ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ವಿವರಗಳು ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತಿವೆ.

ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಮತ್ತು ಕೈಗಾರಿಕಾ ವಸಾಹತು ಹೆಸರು	ಮಳಿಗೆ/ನಿವೇಶನ/ಗೋದಾಮು/ಸಂಕೀರ್ಣ ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣ ಚ.ಮೀ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ	ಪ್ರವರ್ಗ	ಪ್ಲ್ಯಾಟ್/ನಿವೇಶನ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ		ಮಳಿಗೆ/ನಿವೇಶನ/ಗೋದಾಮು/ಪ್ಲ್ಯಾಟ್‌ಗಳ ತಾತ್ಕಾಲಿಕ ಮೌಲ್ಯ		ಅರ್ಜಿ ಜೊತೆ ಪಾವತಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ಇಎಂಡಿ/ಭದ್ರತಾ ಠೇವಣಿ	
			ಪ್ಲ್ಯಾಟ್	ನಿವೇಶನ	ದರ ಚ.ಮೀ.ಗೆ (ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಒಟ್ಟು ಮೌಲ್ಯ (ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ಪ್ರವರ್ಗ ದವರಿಗೆ ಶೇ.10 ರಂತೆ (ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಪ.ಜಾ/ಪ.ಪಂ ಪ್ರವರ್ಗ ದವರಿಗೆ ಶೇ.5 ರಂತೆ (ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)
1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ								
ಎಲೆಕ್ಟ್ರಾನಿಕ್ ಸಿಟಿ	223.70	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	A-312 Blk-III	–	49,665	1,02,59,200	10,25,920	5,12,960
ಪೀಣ್ಯ–2ನೇ ಹಂತ	346.33	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	S.F-9	–	51,975	1,83,64,000	18,36,400	9,18,200
	346.33	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	S.F-10	–	51,975	1,83,64,000	18,36,400	9,18,200
	346.33	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	F.F-6	–	51,975	1,83,64,000	18,36,400	9,18,200
ಹೊಸಕೋಟೆ	169.74	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	Land adjacent to Shed No.B-60	13,340	24,90,764	2,49,076	1,24,538
ರಾಮನಗರ	157.50	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	SPL-1	37,800	59,53,500	5,95,350	2,97,675
ನೆಲಮಂಗಲ ನಿವೇಶನ	1000.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	B-05	9,360	93,60,000	9,36,000	4,68,000
	1000.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	B-12	9,360	1,02,96,000	10,29,600	5,14,800
	1000.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	B-13	9,360	1,02,96,000	10,29,600	5,14,800
	1000.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	B-31	9,360	1,02,96,000	10,29,600	5,14,800
	1000.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	B-38	9,360	1,02,96,000	10,29,600	5,14,800
	1000.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	B-39	9,360	1,02,96,000	10,29,600	5,14,800
	1000.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	B-40	9,360	1,02,96,000	10,29,600	5,14,800
	1000.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	B-45	9,360	1,02,96,000	10,29,600	5,14,800
	1000.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	B-49	9,360	1,02,96,000	10,29,600	5,14,800
	1000.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	B-56	9,360	1,02,96,000	10,29,600	5,14,800
	1000.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	B-57	9,360	1,02,96,000	10,29,600	5,14,800
	1000.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	B-67	9,360	1,02,96,000	10,29,600	5,14,800
	1000.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	B-77	9,360	1,02,96,000	10,29,600	5,14,800
	1000.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	B-84	9,360	1,02,96,000	10,29,600	5,14,800
	1000.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	B-85	9,360	1,02,96,000	10,29,600	5,14,800
	1000.40	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	B-115	9,360	1,02,96,000	10,29,600	5,14,800
	1003.26	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	B-125	9,360	1,03,29,565	10,32,957	5,16,478
	300.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	D-1	9,360	36,89,000	3,68,900	1,84,450
	300.30	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	D-11	9,360	28,13,500	2,81,350	1,40,675
	300.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	D-17	9,360	33,73,000	3,37,300	1,68,650
	300.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	D-43	9,360	30,88,800	3,08,880	1,54,440
	300.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	D-75	9,360	30,88,800	3,08,880	1,54,440
	300.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	D-84	9,360	30,88,800	3,08,880	1,54,440
	300.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	D-88	9,360	30,88,800	3,08,880	1,54,440
	300.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	D-117	9,360	30,88,800	3,08,880	1,54,440
	300.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	D-122	9,360	30,88,800	3,08,880	1,54,440
	300.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	D-124	9,360	30,88,800	3,08,880	1,54,440
	300.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	D-143	9,360	33,70,000	3,37,000	1,68,500
	300.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	D-148	9,360	33,70,000	3,37,000	1,68,500
	300.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	D-152	9,360	28,08,000	2,80,800	1,40,400
	300.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	D-171	9,360	30,88,800	3,08,880	1,54,440
	300.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	D-180	9,360	30,88,800	3,08,880	1,54,440
	300.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	D-191	9,360	30,88,800	3,08,880	1,54,440
	300.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	D-213	9,360	30,88,800	3,08,880	1,54,440
	300.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	D-236	9,360	30,88,800	3,08,880	1,54,440
	300.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	D-241	9,360	30,88,800	3,08,880	1,54,440
	300.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	D-243	9,360	30,88,800	3,08,880	1,54,440
ಮುತ್ತುಗದಹಳ್ಳಿ ನಿವೇಶನ	500	ಅಲ್ಪಸಂಖ್ಯಾತ	-	C-26	11,040	60,72,000	6,07,200	3,03,600
	500	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	C-27	11,040	60,72,000	6,07,200	3,03,600
	500	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	C-29	11,040	60,72,000	6,07,200	3,03,600
	500	ಮಹಿಳೆ	-	C-30	11,040	60,72,000	6,07,200	3,03,600
	300	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	C-39	11,040	60,72,000	6,07,200	3,03,600
	300	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	D-6	11,040	36,43,200	3,64,320	1,82,160
	300	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	D-7	11,040	36,43,200	3,64,320	1,82,160
	300	ವಿಕಲಚೇತನ	-	D-8	11,040	36,43,200	3,64,320	1,82,160
	300	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	D-10	11,040	36,43,200	3,64,320	1,82,160
	300	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	D-11	11,040	36,43,200	3,64,320	1,82,160
	346	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	SPL-4	11,040	45,83,808	4,58,380	2,29,190
	568	ಪ್ರವರ್ಗ–1	-	SPL-8	11,040	68,97,792	6,89,779	3,44,889
	541	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	SPL-9	11,040	65,69,904	6,56,990	3,28,495
	522.24	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	SPL-10	11,040	69,18,635	6,91,863	3,45,932
	425	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	SPL-11	11,040	51,61,200	5,16,120	2,58,060
	395.65	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	SPL-12	11,040	48,04,773	4,80,477	2,40,238
	320	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	SPL-13	11,040	38,86,080	3,88,608	1,94,304
	402.80	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	SPL-17	11,040	53,36,294	5,33,629	2,66,814
	380	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	SPL-18	11,040	46,14,720	4,61,472	2,30,736
	318.25	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	SPL-19	11,040	38,64,828	3,86,482	1,93,241
	360	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	SPL-21	11,040	43,71,840	4,37,184	2,18,592
	410	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	SPL-22	11,040	49,79,040	4,97,904	2,48,952
	638.40	ಪ್ರವರ್ಗ–2	-	SPL-23	11,040	84,57,723	8,45,752	4,22,876
	490.05	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ	-	SPL-24	11,040	64,92,182	6,49,218	3,24,609

ನಿಗದಿತ ಅರ್ಜಿ ನಮೂನೆಗಳನ್ನು ನಿಗಮದ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ವಿವಿಧ ಸ್ಥಳಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಇರುವ ಮಳಿಗೆ/ನಿವೇಶನಗಳ ವಿವರಗಳಾದ ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣ, ತಾತ್ಕಾಲಿಕ ಮೌಲ್ಯ, ಮುಂಗಡ ಠೇವಣಿ ಮೊಬಲಗು, ಪರಿಶೀಲನಾ ಶುಲ್ಕ, ನೀಡಲಾಗುವ ಸಹಾಯಧನ, ಪ್ರವರ್ಗವಾರು ವಿವರ, ಹಂಚಿಕೆಯ ಷರತ್ತು ಮತ್ತು ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಇತರೆ ಸಮಗ್ರ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ಸಹಾಯಕ ಪ್ರಧಾನ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕರು (ಕೈ.ವ) / ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕರು(ಕೈವ) ಸಹಾಯಕ ಪ್ರಧಾನ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕರು(ಸಮನ್ವಯ), (ಮೊಬೈಲ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಗಳನ್ನು ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ನೀಡಲಾಗಿದೆ) ರವರಿಂದ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಸದರಿ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ನಿಗಮದ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ **www.kssidc.co.in** ನಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ವೀಕ್ಷಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು ಅರ್ಜಿ ಶುಲ್ಕ, ಮುಂಗಡ ಠೇವಣಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಅಗತ್ಯ ದಾಖಲಾತಿಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 05–04–2023ರ ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 5–00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆವಿಗೆ** ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ಸಹಾಯಕ ಪ್ರಧಾನ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕರು(ಕೈವ) ವಿಭಾಗೀಯ/ಶಾಖಾ ಕಛೇರಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/–
ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಾಪ್ರ/ಜಿಎ/5043/2022–23

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
(Water Resources Department)
Office of the Executive Engineer, UKP.Reh.Divn No.2, Almatti
Tq: Nidagundi, Dist: Vijayapur
Land Phone No.08426-281049

No.UKP/REH-2/DB/E-Proc/Tender-15/2022-23/2468
Date:03-03-2023

SHORT TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-Procurement only)
(One &Two Cover System)

In accordance with The Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act, the Percentage rate Electronic Tenders through e-Procurement platform in Single &Two cover system in KW-2 KW-3 & KW-4 thruogh standard Tender documents are invited by the Executive Engineer, UKP, Reh. Division No.2, Almatti on behalf of The Governor of Karnataka State from Registered Contractors of Registered KPWD Class-I & class-II the details of works tendered and dates are shown below. The blank tender documents can be obtained through website www.eproc.Karnataka.Govt.in and shall be submitted in e-procurement portal.

Construction of Agasi, Anganwadi, Twin Teachers Quarters, Bus Shelter, Community Hall, Compound Wall, Toilet Block Buildings in various RC's and Construction of Road, Metalling, Storm Water Drain works in Hungund Taluk, Constrcution of samudaya bhavan buildings in Muddeebihal Talka of vijaypura District & Construction of Toilets and Bathroom near Basaveshwar Temple in B.Bagewadi Taluk
Total No. of works – 12 Nos. (Reserved for ST-02 Total 02)
Amount put to Tender Maximum Rs.224.52 Lakhs & Minimum Rs.22.19.61 Lakhs,
EMD Amount Maximum Rs.3.98 Lakhs & Minimum Rs. 0.0.26 Lakhs.
1) Last date for Tender querries/clarification: **09-03-2023** upto **11.30** A.M. **(2)** Pre bid meeting on **09-03-2023** at **04.30** P.M. at Executive Engineer, Division-2 Almatti. **(3)** Last date for blank tender forms and submission of completed tender documents: **15-03-2023** upto **5.00** P.M. **(4)** Opening of technical bid: **17-03-2023** at **11.30** A.M. **(5)** Financial bids will be opened after approval of technical bids.
(The Estimate amount put to Tender is exclusive of GST. The tenderer should quote without GST. GST shall be paid separately @ prevailing rates during billing)
For more information contact the Office of the Executive Engineer,UKP.Reh.Divn **No.2,** Almatti during working hours **on or after 06-03-2023** website **www.eproc.Karnataka Govt.in.**

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
UKP.Reh.Divn No.2, Almatti

DIPR/BGK/953/2022-23/DESHPANDEPUBLICITY

ಅರಣ್ಯ ಇಲಾಖೆ
ಉಪ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಛೇರಿ,
ಹುಣಸೂರು ವಿಭಾಗ, ಹುಣಸೂರು
ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 08222–252064
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಎ2/ಬಿಯುಡಿ/ಟೆಂಡರ್/ಸಿಆರ್–52/2022–23 ದಿ: 24.02.2023

ಸಂಕ್ಷಿಪ್ತ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ–2000 ರಂತೆ, ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕರ ಅವಗಾಹನೆಗೆ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸುವುದೇನೆಂದರೆ, 2023–24ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ವಿವಿಧ ಮಾನವ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಸೇವೆಗಳನ್ನು (50 ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ನೌಕರರು) ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳ ಮೂಲಕ ಪಡೆಯುವ ಸಂಬಂಧ, ಹುಣಸೂರು ವಿಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿ 2022–23ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಾಗಿ ಹೆಸರನ್ನು ನೋಂದಣಿ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡಿರುವ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು/ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳ ಮೂಲಕ ಷರತ್ತುಗಳಿಗೊಳಪಟ್ಟು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಕ್ಷಿಪ್ತ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ದಿ: 13.03.2023 ರಂದು 16.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿ: 15.03.2023 ರಂದು 16.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿ: 15.03.2023 ರಂದು 17.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಮೇಲಿನ ದಿನಾಂಕದಂದು ಯಾವುದೇ ಟೆಂಡರುದಾರರು ಭಾಗವಹಿಸದೇ ಇದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಥವಾ ಟೆಂಡರುದಾರರು ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕವಾಗಿ ಅನರ್ಹತೆಗೊಂಡಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತೆ ಮರು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನಡೆಸಲಾಗುವುದು, ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯನ್ನು ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ದಿ: 21.03.2023 ರಂದು 16.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿ: 23.03.2023 ರಂದು 16.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿ: 23.03.2023 ರಂದು 17.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ, ಈ ಕೆಳ ಸಹಿದಾರರ ಕಛೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಲಸದ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ ಅಥವಾ ಅಂತರ್ಜಾಲದ ಮೂಲಕ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ವಿಳಾಸ https://eproc.karnataka.gov.inರಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು.

ಸಹಿ/– ಉಪ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ, ಹುಣಸೂರು ವಿಭಾಗ, ಹುಣಸೂರು

DIPR/DDMYS/KSMCA/1114/2022-23

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಪಟ್ಟಣ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ ಕುಕನೂರು.
TOWN PANCHAYAT KUKANOOR
Email ID : itstaff_ulb_kukanoor@yahoo.com
Phone No: 08534 230845 Website: www.kukanoortown.gov.in

NO: TPK/15th Finance/2022-23 Dated : 02-03-2023

~:: E-Procurement Tender ::~
(As per Standard Tender Procurement Bid Document KW-3)

As per KTPP 2000 Act by the Order and in the name of Governer, Karnataka State Tenders are invite under 2021-22 15th Finance Grant Scheme for various Civil Work. Eligible registered bidders are requested to bid in **One Cover & Two Cover** System via E-Procurement Portal Website www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in on/or before the date mentioned as under through e-portal only. Manual application will not be accepted.
Further details contact under signed office at Working hours.
In case of the Date of Bid Opening happends to be holiday because of any Special Circumstances/Govt. holiday, The Next Date is Considered as Date of Opening.
Works Details: **15th Finance - 2021-22** 1) **DMA/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT132671/CALL-2:** Estimated Cost (In Lakhs): **98.83.** EMD (In Rupees): **1,76,367.00.** Working Period: **06 Months Including Rainy Season.**
Note: Any changes in Calendar of events will be published in e-procurement portal only
Conditions : 1) Tender Submitted Last Date:- **10-03-2023 at 05-30PM.** 2) Date & Time of Technical Bid Opening :- **13-03-2023 at 11-00 AM** 3) Date & Time of Financial Bid Opening :- **16-03-2023 at 11-00 AM** or After days. 4) KW-3 - 50% of Similar Nature of Workdone Certificate in Amount Put to Tender. 5) Package Details in www.kukanoortown.mrc.gov.in. 6) Work Completion Date in KW-3 – 06 Months in Rainy Season. 7) The Sole Decision of Tender Acceptance & Rejection Authority of Chief Officer T.P. Kukanoor. 8) More Details in Govt. e-procuremet Website in http://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in. 9) The GST of 12% shall be added separately to the estimate as per Govt Order No. PWD 51 RDF 2019, Bengaluru Dated : 18-03-2022.

Sd/- **Chief Officer,** T.P. Kukanoor
Sd/- **Administrator and Tahasildar,** T.P. Kukanoor

DIPR/KOPPAL/706/2022-23/DESHPANDE PUBLICITY

Abdul Nazir Sab State Institute of Rural Development & Panchayat Raj
Lalithmahal Road, Mysuru – 570 011
No. SIRDPR-ADM0EST2/15/2022 Date: 03.03.2023

NOTIFICATION

Applications are invited from Eligible candidates for Faculty and Research Officer(Total 06) posts at Abdul Nazir Sab State Institute of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (ANSSIRD&PR), Mysuru, State Panchayat Resource Centre, Bengaluru and Kalaburagi and Dharwad Regional Centres on Contract basis,**Last date for receipt of applications through Speed post/Registered post is 20thMarch 2023, Application received after last date of receipt will not be considered.** For detailed Notification & Application form visit: www.sirdmysuru.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Director, ANSSIRD & PR, Mysuru

DIPR/DDMYS/KSMCA/1121/2022-23

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್‌ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ,
ಕೊಡಗು ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮಡಿಕೇರಿ

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : 38/2022–23/6720–24 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 02–03–2023

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ 1999 ಹಾಗೂ ನಿಯಮಗಳು 2000 ರಂತೆ ಸ್ಟ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ಡ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯೂಮೆಂಟ್ ಕೆ.ಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂ–3 ರನ್ವಯ ದ್ವಿಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಕೊಡಗು ವಿಭಾಗದ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಲೆ.ಶೀ: 8443–ತೇವಣಿ ವಂತಿಕೆ ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಡಿಕೇರಿ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿನ 2 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಇ–ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣಾ ವೇದಿಕೆ ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಿಟ್ಟ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.67.68 ಲಕ್ಷ ಹಾಗೂ ಗರಿಷ್ಠ ರೂ.80.52 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲಾತಿಗಳನ್ನು ದಿನಾಂಕ: 02–03–2023 ರಿಂದ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಇ–ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣಾ ವೇದಿಕೆ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಪಡೆಯ ಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 10–03–2023 ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆಯಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಇ–ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣಾ ವೇದಿಕೆ **http://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಯಾವುದೇ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ/ಮಾರ್ಪಾಡುಗಳನ್ನು ಇ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾತ್ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್,
ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಕೊಡಗು ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮಡಿಕೇರಿ

Government of Karnataka
(KARNATAKA RURAL WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION DEPARTMENT)
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, RURAL WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION, DIVISION KALABURGI-585105

No:EE/RDW&S/Dvn/Tech/2022-23/3595 Dated : 27-02-2023

E-PROCURMENT SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (Two cover)

The Executive Engineer Rural Drinking water & Sanitation Division, Kalaburagi on behalf of Honorable Governor, Karnataka here by invites separate Technical & Financial bid tender for drinking water works from eligible civil contractor detailed as below
The Tender Document with detailed conditions can be obtained through web site http://eporc.karnataka.gov.in and should be submitted through E-procurment system only
1) Name of work: **Chittapur Taluka -02 (Indent No 58318 & 58319),** 2) Head of A/C : JJM, 3) Eligibility of Contractor: Class-I, 4) Tender Amount: **Min 130,65,32,322/- Max 182,76,97,440/-,** 5) Date of Commencement of downloading of Bidding document: **27-02-2023 11:00am**, 6) Cost of tender form and EMD: As per E-portal, 7) Last Date to submit bids on e-portal: **08-03-2023 4.00pm,** 8) Pre bid meeting Date: **04-03-2023 11.00am** 9) Opening of Techincal Bid: **09-03-2023 4.01pm,** 10) Opening of Financial Bid: **13-03-2023 11:00am**, 11) Address for any clarification reg.tender: Office of the Executive Engineer, Rural Drinking water & Sanitaion Division, PRE division 1st floor Kusanoor road Kalaburagi

Sd/- Executive Engineer
RDW&S Division, Kalaburagi

DIPR/Kalaburagi/1408/MC&A/2022-23

KOCHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
CORPORATION OFFICE, PB.No.1016
ERNAKULAM, KOCHI-682011
No. MOE2(MOJ2)4908/14 Date: 02.03.2023

REQUEST FOR QUOTATION
WINDOW NO. C193207/2023
Operation and Maintenance of Windrow Compost Plant at Brahmapuram

Tender Fee : Rs. 10,000+ GST
EMD : Rs. 2,00,000/-
Pre Bid Meeting : 08.03.2023, 3:00pm
Last Date for Online Submission : 17.03.2023, 3:00pm
Date of Opening of Bids : 20.03.2023, 11:00am

The bidding document is available online and bids should be submitted online at www.etenders.kerala.gov.in. For further details please visit the Website www.etenders.kerala.gov.in and search the Window Number.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer
Kochi Municipal Corporation

Government of Karnataka
Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Department
Office of the The Executive Engineer, Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Department, Division, Gadag
Phone: 08372-297256. Email -id :- ee.rws.gdg@gmail.com
Tender Notification No EE/RDWSS/GDG/JE/TND/2022-23/1495 Date: 3.3.2023

TENDER CORRIGENDUM NOTIFICATION

This is to notify that for the Tenders published in News paper from this office via letter number; EE/RDWSS/GDG/JE/TND/2022-23/**1490** Dated:**02.03.2023** the below change/correction have been made for these tenders.

SLNo	Description	Change as
1	Tender Starting Date	**04.03.2023**
2	Last date for tender Queries	**06.03.2023**
3	Last Date for bid submission	**13.03.2023**
4	Opening of techanical	**14.03.2023**
5	Opening of Fianacial Bid	**16.03.2023**

DIPR/GADAG/KSMCA/710/2022-23

Sd/- Executive Engineer
RDW&S Division, Gadag,

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For Interactive Session over Zoom pl register at *www.vaidsics.com*

VAID'S ICS, DELHI

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, OMER Mohameed Iqbal, R/at No.20, Omer Complex, Arunachalam Mudaliar Road, Shivajinagar, HKP Road, Bangalore-560051, have changed my name from Omer Mohameed Iqbal to Omer Mohammed Iqbal vide affidavit dated 02-03-2023 before Notary Sivakumara.M.N, Bangalore.

I, SAHUKAR Suma, R/at No. S-6, Gurupriya Seventh Hill Apartment, No.12/2/13, 4th Cross, ITI Layout, Banashankari III Stage, Banfalore-560085, have changed my name from Sahukar Suma to Suma S Joshi vide affidavit dated 02-03-2023 before Notary Sivakumara.M.N, Bangaluru.

I, FATHIMA Mary, W/o A.Mariya Swamy, ID No.KRT-06/05967, R/a No.2, 10th Main, 4th Cross, Muneshwara Layout, Hongasandra, Begur Road, Bengaluru-560068 hereby state that my name has been wrongly mentioned as Pathima Mary in my husband's army service records but my correct name is Fathima Mary vide affidavit dt: 02.03.2023 sworn before Notary N.Narayanaswamy,B'lore

I Preethi Ramalingam alias Preethi R D/o Ramalingam Ramiah, residing at # F903, Nagarjuna Meadows Phase 2, Doddabalalpura Road Yelahanka New Town, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560064, have changed my name to Preethi Iyer for all purposes in future.

I, YASMEEN Jaj, W/o Omer Mohammed Iqbal, R/at No.20, Omer Complex, Arunachalam Mudaliar Road, Shivajinagar, HKP Road, Bangalore-560051, have changed my name from Yasmeen Jaj to Yasmeen Taj vide affidavit dated 02-03-2023 before Notary Sivakumara.M. N, Bangalore.

AFFIDAVIT

I, **Smt. MALA .S**, aged about 53 years, W/o Late Magaligam .M, R/at No. 179, N.T. Block I Division, Oorgaum Post, K.G.F-563120, Taluk KGF, District Kolar, do hereby declare that in my husband's Army records my name is mentioned as S. MALA instead of **MALA .S** and my date of birth is wrongly mentioned as 12.5.1969 instead of **27.5.1968**, vide affidavit dated 4-2-2023, sworn before Prl. Civil Judge and Addl. JMFC, KGF.

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I S Siddaramegowda S/o Siddaramegowda, R/o 178, Melina Beedi, Beerihundi, Mysuru, Mallahalli, Karnataka –570026; have changed my name to Siddarthgowda.

I, SULTHANA Parveen, R/at No.64, 6th Cross, New Guddadahalli, Bengaluru-560026 have changed my name to Sultana Parveen vide Affidavit dated 28.02.2023 sworn before Notary R. Basavaraja, Bengaluru.

I, MUKTHAR Ahamed, R/at No.64, 6th Cross, New Guddadahalli, Bengaluru-560026 have changed my name to Mukthar Ahmed vide Affidavit dated 28.02.2023 sworn before Notary R. Basavaraja, Bengaluru.

BUSINESS OFFERS

HOTEL FOR Sale 54 Rooms Star Category Hotel for outright Sale in Bangalore, Contact:9321125126

TENDERS

National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd.
Regd. Office: NAFED House, Siddhartha Enclave, Ring Road, Ashram Chowk, New Delhi-110014
Ph.: EPABX: 011-26340019
Website: www.nafed-india.com

NAFED invites EoI from experienced Service Providers for providing Software Solution for Onion procurement with Quality assessment. Those interested may visit NAFED's website **https://www.nafed-india.com** for further details or contact the undernoted.

Sanjay Kumar Rathi
Manager
Mob.: 9414025061

ODISHA ADARSHA VIDYALAYA SANGATHAN
N-1/9, NAYAPALLI, PO. - SAINIK SCHOOL, BHUBANESWAR - 751005

INDICATIVE ADVERTISEMENT NO. 01/2023

Recruitment to the posts of Principals and Teachers in the Odisha Adarsha Vidyalaya Sangathan in the State of Odisha.

Odisha Adarsha Vidyalaya Sangathan (OAVS), under the School & Mass Education Department, Government of Odisha invites Online Applications from the prospective candidates for filling up 1010 posts of Principals and Teachers of different disciplines in OAVs by direct recruitment. Interested candidates are required to apply online through website **www.oav.edu.in** at the link available on this website. The candidates should ensure that they fulfill the eligibility criteria and other terms & conditions stipulated in the advertisement before applying online for the posts. No other means / modes of submission of applications will be accepted. Interested applicants are advised to visit the website regularly for further instructions/ notice / updates in this regard.

IMPORTANT DATES

Opening Date for online registration of applications.	**07 / 03 / 2023**
Last Date for Completion of Online Registration.	**06 / 04 / 2023 17:00 Hrs**
Last Date of submission of Online Fee as applicable through Debit / Credit Card / Net Banking.	**08 / 04 / 2023 23:45 Hrs**

Sd/-
State Project Director, OAVS.

n-106 OIPR-27029/11/0019/2223

Government of Karnataka
(Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Department)
Office of the Executive Engineer, Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, Shivamogga.

Tender Notification (Through e-procurement)

ಸಂ. ಕಾಇಂ/ಗ್ರಾಕುನೀ&ನೈಜ/ವಿಶಿ/ಕ.ಇಂ–2/**MVS:BDVT MVS, E-proc: 2022-23:2929** **Date: 02.03.2023**

On behalf of Governor of Karnataka and as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 2000, item-war tenders are invited from the contractors registered in Panchayat Raj Engineering Dept/ Public Works Dept upto 2020-25 (Class 1 and above) through **Standard Tender Document of Work KW-4** for the works in Bhadravathi Taluks in the jurisdiction of Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, Shivamogga District. Those who are paying the cost of forms and EMD in e-payment may be paid through Credit/Debit cards.

1) Pre-bid meeting date and place : **On 08.03.2023** at **11.30 AM** at Executive Engineer's Office, Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, DC Office premises, RTO Road, Shivamogga.

2.The last date for submission of filled-in application through e-procurement: **17.03.2023** upto **4.00 P M.**

3. Date of opening of Technical bid : **18.03.2023** at **5.00 PM.**

4. Date of opening of Financial bid : **20.03.2023** at **10.00 A.M**.

5. Time for completion of works : **15 months.**

If one of the above dates happens to be declared a general holiday, the next working day will be considered. Tender details, conditions and corrigendum or changes can be obtained in the official website **https://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in**.

Sl No.	Indent No.	Name of the works	Amount put to tender (Rs in Lakhs)	EMD amount (In Rs)	Time for completion of works
1	RWSSD/2022-23/WS/WORK_INDENT_56250	Multi Village Water Supply Scheme covering Anaveri and other 37 habitation in 23 villages of Bhadravathi taluk in Shivamogga district on DBOT basis under Jal Jeevan Mission.	3125.42	3125000/-	15 months

Sd/-
Executive Engineer, Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, Shivamogga.

DIPR/SMG/No.10/Zenkar/2022-23

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
DISTRICT URBAN DEVELOPMENT CELL
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER AND DISTRICT MAGISTRATE, BELAGAVI DISTRICT, BELAGAVI Telephone no:0831-2407279
E-Mail:dudc_bgm@yahoo.co.in

No: BGM/DUDC/5/CR-25/2021-22 **Dated: 02-03-2023**

Tender Notification

The Executive Engineer, District Urban Develoment Cell, Belagavi District invites short term tender for Sl.No.01 to 10 and full term for Sl.No.11 & 15 in one & two cover system using KW-1, 3 & 4 Documents for Belagavi District under Nagarothana (Municipality) Phase-3 & 4 Project works as detailed below:- **(Rs. in Lakhs)**

Sl. No	Description of works	Amount Put to Tender (Excluding GST)	Earnest Money Deposit
1	Construction of Road, Drain, Toilet and Pour Karmika's Rest House Works in TMC SAUNDATTI-YALLAMMA limits. (Tender No. DMA/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT143172/Call-3).	142.50	2.14
2	Construction of Road, Drain, Toilet and Development of Samuday Bhavan Works in TMC MUDALGI limits (Tender No. DMA/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT143166/Call-2).	132.63	1.99
3	House to House UGD Connection Work in TMC RAMDURG limits (Tender No. DMA/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT145348/Call-2)	111.19	1.67
4	Construction of Library, Anganwadi and Toilet Works in TP SHEDBAL limits. (Tender No. DMA/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT143177/Call-3).	66.30	1.33
5	Construction of Road, Drain, Toilet and Pour Karmika's Rest House Works in TP CHANNAMMAN KITTUR limits. (Tender No. DMA/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT143175/Call-3).	78.24	1.56
6	Supply & Erection of TC to IB road borewells, Supply & Erection of Street lights for electric supply to Borewells in Various Wards and Supply & Erection of Pipe line in Various Places at Ward No.02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 11, 15 & 17 in TP CHANNAMMAN KITTUR limits. (DMA/2022-23/WS/WORK_INDENT140820/Call-3)	56.74	1.13
7	Construction of Over Head Tank, Drilling of Borewell, Supply & Erection of Motor Pump and Pipeline in Various Places at TP Kankanwadi limits (DMA/2022-23/WS/WORK_INDENT 140807/Call-2)	57.26	1.15
8	Repair of Transformer in Hidakla Dam Jackwell and Supply & Installation of Booster Pumps in Jabapur & Chikodi Road and Supply & Erection of HDPE Pipeline at Ward No.17 in TMC Hukkeri limits (Reserved for SC Contractors). (DMA/2022-23/WS/WORK_INDENT140782/Call-3)	41.64	0.42
9	Supply & Erection of Pipe line in various Places at Ward 05 and 17 in TP Ainapur limits (DMA/2022-23/WS/WORK_INDENT140815/Call-3)	4.23	0.11
10	Supply & Erection of Street Light Poles and Street Lights at Road side from Ambedkar Bhavan to Ankali Road at Ward No.08 in TP EXAMBA limits of BELAGAVI District under Nagarothana (Municipality) Phase-3 Project. (Tender No. DMA/2022-23/EL/WORK_INDENT138489/Call-2)	12.10	0.30
11	Construction of Road, Drain and Toilet Works in TP KALLOLI limits (Tender No. DMA/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT143084).	66.33	1.33
12	Construction of TMC Office Building in TMC Munavalli limits (Tender No. DMA/2022-23/BD/WORK_INDENT140812).	80.50	1.61
13	Construction of Road, Drain and Other Works in TMC ATHANI limits (Incentive Grant) (Tender No. DMA/2022-23/RD/WORK_INDENT147706).	75.11	1.50
14	Supply & Installation of High Mast Lights in TMC ATHANI limits (Incentive Grant) (Tender No. DMA/2022-23/EL/WORK_INDENT147707).	8.50	0.21
15	Construction of Over Head Water Tank (OHT) in TP Kabbur limits (Tender No. DMA/2022-23/RD/WORK_INDENT144166)	16.90	0.42

Contractors can download and submit the tenders through e-Procurement portal at www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in. Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and Tender Processing Fee shall also be paid electronically. Calendar of Events and other information are as follows:

Sl.No.01 to 10	Last Date for submission of tenders	:09-03-2023 up to 17.00 hrs.
	Date of Opening of Tenders (Technical Bids)	:10-03-2023 at 17.01 hrs.
Sl.No.11 & 15	Last Date for submission of tenders	:17-03-2023 up to 17.00 hrs.
	Date of Opening of Tenders (Technical Bids)	:18-03-2023 at 17.01 hrs.

Postponement of calendar of events (if any) is only through e-Procurement portal and will not be published in newspapers.

Sd/-EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
Distirct Urban Development Cell, Belagavi

DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-1927/KSMCA/2022-23

INBRIEF

Youth Congress executive committee meeting begins

The Indian Youth Congress (IYC) on Friday began its three-day executive committee meeting in Bengaluru. Presidents of all Youth Congress units of States are participating in the event.

The meeting of the executive committee will conclude on Sunday and it is expected to pass a resolution on various issues that are affecting the youth of the country.

Saleem Ahmed, MLC, who is also working president of the KPCC, participated in the inaugural function. He highlighted the role of the youth in nation-building. Indian Youth Congress president B.V. Srinivas, youth leaders Raksha Ramaiah and Suraj Hegde participated in the event.

KITU raises industrial dispute on layoffs in edutech firm

The Karnataka State IT/ITeS Employees Union (KITU) on Friday filed an industrial dispute against the management of edtech start-up BYJU'S for allegedly pursuing "forced resignations" of its employees.

KITU general secretary Sooraj Nidiyanga alleged in a media statement that for the last several months BYJU'S was "forcing its employees to resign with intimidation and coercion". The KITU has raised an industrial dispute with the Deputy Labour Commissioner, Bengaluru Division-2, demanding the reinstatement of these retrenched employees with back wages, continuity of service, and consequential benefits, it said. "We call upon all the IT/ITeS employees to come forward in solidarity with the employees," the union urged.

D.V. Shylendra Kumar, retired HC judge, passes away

FILE PHOTO

D.V. Shylendra Kumar, a retired judge of the High Court of Karnataka, died here on Friday. He was 71. He is survived by his wife and two sons.

Mr. Kumar was the first judge of the High Court to open a blog and publish articles on the requirement of transparency in the judiciary besides criticising the Supreme Court's collegium. He had written an article criticising the then Chief Justice of India K.G. Balakrishnan for opposing declaration of assets by High Court and Supreme Court judges.

Mr. Kumar made details of his assets public on his blog in August 2009 after the then Chief Justice of the High Court (P.D. Dinakaran) refused to put the details on the High Court's official website. Mr. Kumar was the second High Court judge in the country to publicly declare assets. He had also revolted against Mr. Dinakaran following the allegation of land grab and corruption against the latter.

NHM staff strike enters 20th day; most national health programmes hit

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

With the strike by the National Health Mission (NHM) Insourced Employees' Association entering the 20th day on Saturday, all national health programmes in Karnataka, including routine immunisation, tobacco control, Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK), National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme (NTEP), District Mental Health Programme (DMHP), and even AYUSH services have almost come to a standstill.

Work has been hit in several urban primary health centres and boards have been put up outside the centres informing the public about the strike.

Demanding regularisation of services, nearly 15,000 NHM-insourced staff are staging a protest demonstration at Freedom Park in the city since February 13. Around 30,000 staff members across 186 cadres, including doctors and paramedical staff, who were formally appointed under the NHM through committees headed by Zila Panchayat Chief Executive Officers since 2006 have been handling national health programmes among other prime responsibilities in hospitals. They are paid directly under the NHM and not through an intermediate agency. Citing the example of regularisation of NHM employees in Manipur, Punjab, and Rajasthan, the protesters have demanded that their services be regularised too. "Most of us have put in 16 years of service and are still drawing a monthly salary of ₹14,000. This is injustice when the permanent employees in the same cadre get nearly ₹80,000," said Padma Rekha S., a social worker working under the District Mental Health Programme in Ramanagara. Surendranath Malkapur, Drug Resistant TB supervisor in the BBMP, said the strike had severely hit the TB elimination programme.

NHM Mission Director Naveen Bhat and State Health Commissioner Randeep D. said the regularisation of their services was a policy decision to be taken by the government.

BJP MLA prime accused in Lokayukta bribe-trap case involving his son

Virupakshappa resigns as chairman of KSDL after being directed to do so by Chief Minister

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bharatiya Janata Party MLA for Channagiri Madal Virupakshappa has been named as the prime accused in the Lokayukta bribe-trap case involving his son, who was arrested after being caught red-handed accepting a bribe of ₹40 lakh allegedly on behalf of his father on Thursday. The MLA, his son Prashanth Madal, and four others have been booked under various sections of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988.

Mr. Virupakshappa resigned as chairman of Karnataka Soaps and Detergents Ltd. (KSDL) on Friday, reportedly after being directed to do so by Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai. Being the prime accused in the case, the MLA now faces the threat of arrest. Holed up in an undisclosed location, he is exploring his legal options, sources said.

The Lokayukta police said they would take stock of the recoveries made during the raids on Mr. Prashanth Madal and serve a notice to Mr. Virupakshappa to present himself for questioning. "We will take a call on his arrest soon," a senior officer said.

Complainant

The complainant is a contractor seeking to secure a contract to supply raw materials for the KSDL, which makes the renowned Mysore Sandal Soap.

Mr. Prashanth Madal, Chief Accounts Officer of the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board, was caught taking a bribe on behalf of Mr. Virupakshappa at the latter's office on Crescent Road. The Lokayukta police raided Mr. Prashanth Madal's residence at Dollars Colony until Friday afternoon and recovered ₹6.1 crore in cash from there and ₹1.62 crore from the MLA's office, taking the total recovery to ₹7.72 crore. This is apart from the ₹40 lakh bribe that the complainant was giving to him during the trap.

Five arrested

The police have arrested five persons – Mr. Prashanth Madal, his relative Siddesh, his accountant Surendra, and two other alleged bribe givers in unconnected cases, Nicholas and Gangadhar, who were present at the MLA's office during the raid. The five were produced before the Lokayukta Special Court and remanded into 14-day judicial custody. "We have recovered a large cache of documents as well. After taking stock of all the recoveries made, we will seek their police custody, probably on Monday," said a senior Lokayukta police official.

Seizure: Lokayukta officials with the cash found during the raid on the residence of Prashanth Madal, son of Madal Virupakshappa, Channagiri MLA, in Bengaluru on Friday. ANI

Prashanth Madal

Come forward with plaints: Lokayukta

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Lokayukta B.S. Patil appealed to the public to approach the anti-corruption authority with complaints of corruption, alluding to a rejuvenated Karnataka Lokayukta following the abolition of the Anti-Corruption Bureau and restoration of powers to carry out probes under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, back to the Lokayukta police. This is the first high-profile raid involving a people's representative in almost a decade now.

"In this case, we have arrested two bribe givers who were at the MLA's office during the raid. Giving a bribe is also a crime. I appeal to the public to trust the Lokayukta and approach us with complaints. We will take impartial and swift action," he told media persons on Friday.

Opposition calls raid proof of '40% commission'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Basavaraj Bommai, however, says it shows that Lokayukta is robust

The Lokayukta raid on BJP MLA Madal Virupakshappa's son Prashanth Madal and the MLA too being booked for alleged corruption subsequently have set off a war of words between the ruling BJP and Opposition parties in Karnataka. Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly Siddaramaiah took to Twitter to seek immediate elections to "put an end to rampant corruption by the BJP government".

Opposition Congress and JD(S) claimed that the case, in which the Lokayukta police caught the MLA's son accepting a bribe for awarding a contract in Karnataka Soaps and Detergents Ltd., allegedly on behalf of his father, was only the latest proof of "40% commission prevalent in the BJP government".

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai countered it by saying that it was his government that had empowered the Karnataka Lokayukta to eliminate corruption in the administration, while the Congress regime had weakened it.

Cong. to approach EC

In a series of tweets, Mr. Siddaramaiah said the party would approach the Election Commission of India to urge it to announce the election schedule at the earliest. "It is the responsibility of the Election Commission to stop misuse of government machinery for a party's campaign. I urge the Election Commission of India to immediately announce the elections and impose the code of conduct," he said.

The Congress has announced a protest led by State unit chief D.K. Shivakumar and Mr. Siddaramaiah on Saturday. Party leaders will lay siege to the Chief Minister's residence in the city, demanding his resignation on moral grounds.

Randeep Singh Surjewala, AICC general secretary in charge of Karnataka, alleged that the "ugly stench of corruption of 40% of the government has soiled the beautiful scent of Mysore Sandal Soap". He demanded a judicial probe by the Chief Justice of the High Court of Karnataka into corruption in the BJP government. "What is the role of Industries Minister Murugesh Nirani and Mr. Bommai? The MLA should be arrested; Mr. Bommai should resign, and Mr. Nirani should be sacked," Mr. Surjewala said.

JD(S) leader H.D. Kumaraswamy, in a series of tweets, asked Union Home Minister Amit Shah, who was visiting the State on Friday, as to who had now made Karnataka their ATM, taking a dig at the BJP leader's earlier allegation that the party patriarch H.D. Deve Gowda's family had made the State their ATM.

Countering these allegations with a moral high ground, Mr. Bommai said the government would not interfere in the probe of the anti-corruption body.

Taking a dig at Mr. Shivakumar, who called the episode proof of "40% commission" practice in the government, Mr. Bommai said the previous Congress government, led by Mr. Siddaramaiah, weakened the Lokayukta and closed several cases by referring them to the ACB.

Free bus travel for II PU students

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

KSRTC has decided to allow II PUC students who are appearing for the exam to travel for free in its buses between their residence and the allotted exam centre on production of the admission ticket between March 9 and 29.

KARNATAKA HOUSING BOARD
3rd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan,
K.G. Road, Bengaluru – 560 009.

Short Term Tender Notification
(Through E-Procurement portal)

Karnataka Housing Board invite tender from the eligible Pre qualified contractors in Karnataka Housing Board through E-procurement.

Last date for submission of bid: 13.03.2023 up to 4:00 p.m.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1.	Upgradation of existing Government First Grade College Building at Srinivasapura and Womens Government First Grade College, Kolar in Kolar District. **Work Indent No: KHB/2022-23/BD/WORK INDENT 1126 & IFT No.286 Date: 02.03.2023, Amount put to tender Rs.3,22,52,896/-.**
2.	Upgradation of existing Government First Grade College Building at Chamarajanagara in Chamarajanagara District. **Work Indent No: KHB/2022-23/BD/WORK INDENT 1133 & IFT No.294 Date: 02.03.2023, Amount put to tender Rs.62,22,795/-.**

For further information, contact below mentioned office address: Executive Engineer, Karnataka Housing Board, Cauvery Bhavan, Bengaluru.

Telephone No. 080-22273511/080-22100077, website: https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Karnataka Housing Board, Bengaluru.

DIPR/CP/RO5073/2022-23

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General public that my clients **1] Smt.D.Venkatamma,** D/o Late.Dasappa, **2] Smt.Rangamma.D,** D/o Late.Dasappa, and **3] Smt.D.Jayamma** D/o Late.Dasappa, R/at No.18, 4th Block, 6th Main Road, Guragunte Palya, Bangalore-560054, are hereby cancelled the registered G.P.A dated:21-06-2017, which has been registered on 22-06-2017 as document No.GNR-4-00134-2017-18, Book-IV, Stored under CD No.GNRD131, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Gandhinagar (Ganganagar) executed in favour **1] Sri.K.R.Shivakumar,** S/o Sri.Rangappa, R/at #115, Flat No.101, 6th Cross, Balaji Layout, Nagashettehalli, RMV extension 2nd Stage, Ring Road, Bengaluru-560094, **2] Sri.Ravichandra,** S/o Muniyappa, R/at # E-108, Narayanappa Extension, GKVK, Bengaluru-560065, **3] Sri.A.C.Shankaregowda** S/o Late. Chikkamugegowda, R/at No.9, BEL Road, Sangollirayanna Road, Bangalore-560094, **4] Srinivas.V,** S/o Sri.Venkateshappa R/at No.46, Singanayakanahalli Village, Gantiganahalli, Bengaluru-560094, and appointed them as my clients lawful attorney, in respect of the property, Which is morefully described in the schedule hereunder:

The above said GPA has canceled. Therefore, the General public are hereby warned to not to have any sort of transaction with the above said persons in respect of the schedule property forthwith. Despite this notice, if anybody enters in to any transaction with the aforesaid persons, then it will be at their risk.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of land bearing **Sy No.1, present Sy No.1 'A', Block 13, of Jakkur Plantation, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, measuring 3 Acres,** and bounded as follows;

East by : Sy No.4 and 5
West by : Sy No.14
North by : Sy No.11
South by : Sy No.13

Sd/-
K.R. NAGARAJ & Associates
ADVOCATES
No.14, 2nd Floor, Gante Gopal building
Opp: Kandya Bhavana, 13th Cross,
Cubbonpet, Bangalore-560002.
Mobile: 7019778813
Bangalore Date:03-03-2023

Government of Karnataka
Agriculture Department
OFFICE OF THE JOINT DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE
SarojiniPullareddy Nilayam,1st floor, 3rd cross, Shankar Gouda Layout, M.P Prakash Nagar, Hosapete-583201. Phone No.: 08394-200240
e-mail ID:jdavijayanagar@gmail.com

No. JDA.VNR/CEPMIZ Tender/02/2022-23
Date:28.02.2023

Short Term e-Tender Notification

Request for proposals are invited through e-Procurement portal as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act-2000 from interested Voluntary Organizations (VOs)/ Non-Government Organizations (NGOs)/ Agencies for Implementing awareness generation, orientation and mobilization of people, capacity building and formation of community institutions and training and orientation of project functionaries in Watershed Areas DevelopmentunderComprehensive Environment Plan for Mining Impact Zone (CEPMIZ) in Hosapete, Hagaribommanahalli and KudligiTaluka of Vijayanagara District, Karnataka State. Last Date for submitting tenders for the said services is fixed on 15.03.2023 upto 5.00 p.m. For further information this office can be contacted during office hours and details of tender can be obtained through the official web site: https://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in.

Sd/- Joint Director of Agriculture,
Vijayanagara District, Hosapete.
DIPR/Vijayanagar/410/KSMCA/2022-23

UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES, DHARWAD
STORES PURCHASE OFFICE, KRISHI NAGAR, DHARWAD-580 005 (Karnataka)
e-mail : spo@uasd.in Ph :+91-836-2444438 Extn : 384, 231
No. SPO/EO/RC/Chemical Fertilizer etc.,/2022-23
Date : 22.02.2023

INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (5th Call) Through e-Procurement Portal

"Expression of Interest" is invited from the eligible authorized manufacturers / distributers / dealers / Stockiests for **Supply of Chemical Fertilizers/ Insecticides / Acaricides / Fungicides / Bactericides / Weedicides / Other Agro Chemicals / Animal Feed ingredients / Poultry Feed / Milk Packing Pouches under Rate Contract for the year 2022-23 & 2023-24** to various Research Stations, Krishi Vigyan Kendras and Colleges under the jurisdiction of UAS, Dharwad. Interested agencies shall visit the link **(http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in) in** for necessary details. The interested agencies need to register with e-procurement GOK, Bangalore for participating in the rate contract. An **EMD of Rs. 5,000/-** shall be paid in any form stipulated by e-procurement portal. HELP DESK No: +91 80 46010000 +91 80 68948777. The Agencies shall get updated with addendum / corrigendum (if any) issued online time to time on the above said link.

SHEDULE OF EVENTS : (1) Last date for receipt of bid (Please Note: One hard copy of the documents should also reach the undersigned on or before the last date)**: 23.03.2023** (Thursday) till 11.00 Hrs (2) Date & Time for Opening of Technical documents **: 24.03.2023** (Friday) at 11.05 Hrs

For more details please contact 0836-2214231 during office hours.

DIPR/Dharwad/KSMCA/1188/2022-23

Sd/- Estate Officer
UAS, Dharwad

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD., Special Division,Ramanagara

Corrigendum Notification No : 29-1/2022-23 Dated : 28.02.2023

With reference to this office Tender Notification No.: 29-1/2022-23 DATED : 28.02.2023 Corrigendum is issued for the following Schedule as below

Corrigendum No	Tender Condition	Shall be read as
Technical Issue 1	"Section 9 : Bill of Quantities, Sl.No.10, Item Code: 5.12(C), Quantity: 9413.17, Unit: Cum"	"Section 9 : Bill of Quantities, Sl.No.10, Item Code: 5.12(C), Quantity: 1212.51, Unit: Cum"
Technical Issue 2	"Section 2 : ITB: General, 3. Qualification of tender: 3.2(C)(4) DBM/BC/BM/SDBC = 8113 00 Cum	"Section 2 : ITB: General, 3. Qualification of tender: 3.2(C)(4) DBM/BC/BM/SDBC = 1552.00 Cum

Note : All other condition of tender notification remain unaltered.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD, Special Division, Ramanagara

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

REMEMBRANCE

IN FOND REMEMBRANCE

Sri. K.Kuppuswamy Naidu
Founder & Managing Director
Born: 13-03-1925 Died: 04-03-2007
Your pioneering effort & fighting spirit will always remain our guiding force
R.Vijay Krishna
S/o K.Rajaiah, Founder Director
Chamundesware Studio & Lab. Pvt. Ltd.
Family, Grandsons & Loyal Workers

16th YEAR REMEMBRANCE

SRI. K. KUPPUSWAMY
1925 - 2007
Stay Hovering to Bless
CHAMUNDESWARE STUDIO & LABORATORY (P) LIMITED
PREVIEW THEATRE
Green Pepper FX
KK Foundation & Public Charitable Trust
RJ Public School (CBSE)
#48, Millers Tank Bund Road, Bangalore - 560 052

INBRIEF

A.P. attracts ₹13 lakh crore investment proposals at GIS

The opening day of the two-day first Global Investors Summit (GIS) organised by the Andhra Pradesh government attracted investments to the tune of ₹13 lakh crore involving 340 proposals, at Visakhapatnam on Friday. Delivering the inaugural address, Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy said that the investments would generate about six lakh employment opportunities in the State.

'Telangana Chief Secretary not following protocol'

A day after the Telangana government moved the Supreme Court against the alleged delays on the part of Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan in giving her assent to various Bills passed by the two houses of the Legislature, the Governor took a dig at State Chief Secretary A. Santhi Kumari on Friday for not following protocol. The Governor said Raj Bhavan was nearer than Delhi and friendly official visits would have been helpful.

Undersea pipeline crack leads to oil spill off Nagapattinam

A crack in an undersea pipeline, owned by the Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited. (CPCL), has resulted in an oil spill in the sea off the Nagapattinam coast. Sources said the pipeline, which was laid in 2003, developed a crack on Thursday night near Pattinamcherry, a fishermen hamlet. Fishermen of Pattinamcherry and adjoining villages, who noticed the spill on Friday morning, informed officials. CPCL and ONGC officials rushed to the spot.

'Modi magic' will work everywhere in India: Shah

He inaugurated Vijaya Sankalpa Yatres at Basavakalyan in Bidar and Devanahalli in Bengaluru Rural

The Hindu Bureau
BIDAR/BENGALURU

Attributing his party's success in Tripura, Nagaland, and Meghalaya Assembly elections to the efforts and charisma of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, BJP's national leader and Union Home Minister Amit Shah said that "Modi magic" would work everywhere in India and predicted it would in Karnataka as well.

He addressed two public rallies, at Basavakalyan in Bidar district and at Devanahalli in Bengaluru Rural district, inaugurating two legs of the Vijay Sankalp Yatre on Friday.

"The Congress has suffered such a humiliating defeat in the Northeast that the party is not visible even if you search with a telescope. There is no chance such a party will get power in Karnataka. Modi Magic works everywhere in India, be it the Northeast, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh or Karnataka," Mr. Shah said. "Congress leaders are left with no formula for victory," he added.

Speaking at Devanahalli later in the day, he said the State's blessing to the party in 2018 and 2019 empowered Mr. Modi to serve the State better and appealed for a "full majority government" to the BJP this time around. He claimed the Narendra Modi-led BJP government at the Centre had given the maximum grants and funds to the State under tax devolution. He listed out development projects taken up in Old Mysore region, a region where the party hopes to increase footsteps – including expansion of Kempegowda International Airport at Devanahalli and Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway.

Prayer time: Union Home Minister Amit Shah at Guru Nanak Jhira Sahib gurudwara in Bidar on Friday. T. GOPICHAND

Home Minister Amit Shah being felicitated by Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai and others at the Vijay Sankalpa Yatre at Devanahalli in Bengaluru Rural on Friday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Mr. Shah said the choice before the people of Karnataka was between the BJP, which made Karnataka number one in foreign direct investment, aviation, and the start-up sector, and the Congress and the JD(S), which would make the State "number one in corruption" and "make their family interests priority number one".

At Devanahalli, a region where the JD(S) has a stronghold, he appealed to the people to not vote for the regional party. "If you vote JD(S) and give them 25 to 30 seats, they will go and join hands with the Congress to form a government and bring the most corrupt Congress to power again in the State," he said.

On Yediyurappa

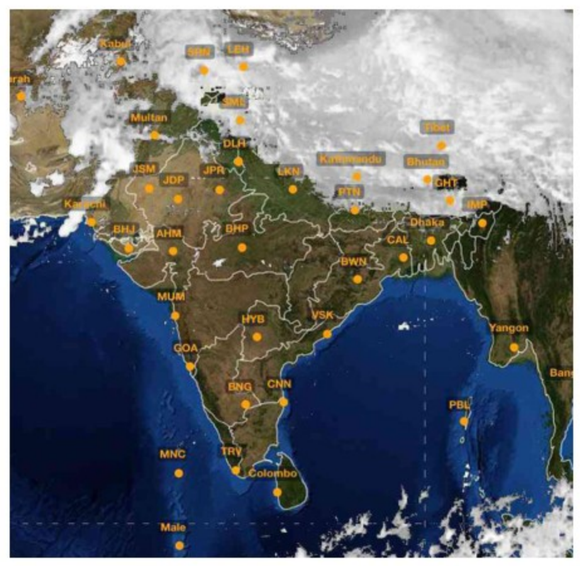
At Basavakalyan, a region dominated by Lingayats, Mr. Shah sought to compare the way the Congress and the BJP have treated leaders of the community.

He said the late Indira Gandhi had "finished the future" of the former Chief Minister Nijalingappa and Rajiv Gandhi had "insulted" another former Chief Minister D. Veerendra Patil. "But Mr. Modi attended B.S. Yediyurappa's birthday celebrations. The way Mr. Modi spoke about Mr. Yediyurappa is worthy of emulation by all political parties as to how elderly and popular political leaders should be treated," Mr. Shah said. The Congress has been harping on the BJP "sidelining" the Lingayat strongman Mr. Yediyurappa.

Later, Mr. Shah inaugurated the first stage of the Safe City Project in Bengaluru. The project entails the installation of thousands of CCTV cameras across the city and a Command Centre to monitor the city 24/7, at a cost of ₹667 crore.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Saturday: Thunderstorm accompanied with lightning likely at isolated places over east Rajasthan, west Madhya Pradesh and central Maharashtra. Heat wave conditions likely in isolated pockets over coastal Karnataka and south Konkan & Goa

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	33.1	17.6	Kozhikode	—	35.6	25.3
Ahmedabad	—	38.7	18.4	Kurnool	—	37.5	20.0
Aizawl	—	32.5	11.5	Lucknow	—	33.0	17.4
Allahabad	—	33.7	16.0	Madurai	—	35.0	18.3
Bengaluru	—	31.4	15.4	Mangaluru	—	36.3	21.0
Bhopal	—	—	18.8	Mumbai	—	35.5	22.4
Bhubaneswar	—	37.7	22.2	Mysuru	—	—	—
Chandigarh	—	31.3	17.5	New Delhi	—	32.2	16.5
Chennai	—	32.0	22.7	Patna	—	33.3	17.4
Coimbatore	—	33.6	17.4	Port Blair	—	31.7	23.7
Dehradun	—	30.2	13.8	Puducherry	—	32.4	19.2
Gangtok	1	18.1	9.1	Pune	—	34.8	18.3
Goa	—	37.8	21.6	Raipur	—	36.6	21.0
Guwahati	—	30.5	16.8	Ranchi	—	32.2	16.4
Hubballi	—	35.0	20.0	Shillong	—	21.1	10.9
Hyderabad	—	34.2	19.3	Shimla	—	19.4	10.0
Imphal	—	29.1	10.9	Srinagar	—	15.1	6.5
Jaipur	—	33.5	20.2	Thiruvananthapuram	—	33.8	22.8
Kochi	—	34.0	24.8	Tiruchi	—	34.1	20.4
Kohima	—	—	10.2	Vijayawada	—	36.6	20.0
Kolkata	—	34.5	20.6	Visakhapatnam	—	33.5	21.9

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.13	.41	.33	...270	...240	
Bengaluru	.3	.39	.9	...107	...159	
Chennai	.22	.—	.40	...186	...127	
Delhi	.—	.98	.63	...159	...198	
Hyderabad	.5	.54	.46	...166	...151	
Kolkata	.13	105	.50	...139	...129	
Lucknow	.24	.61	.38	...242	...142	
Mumbai	.84	356	111	...251	...200	
Pune	.95	140	114	...280	...168	
Visakhapatnam	.23	.67	.78	...211	...254	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Vapi, Gujarat recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 338 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Bathinda, Punjab recorded a healthy AQI score of 37

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Education Department to usher in transparency in school registration in Karnataka, share information on website

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Department of School Education and Literacy has revised the online procedures for registration, first recognition, recognition renewal and obtaining NOC for affiliation to the Central curriculum for all the schools in Karnataka to shorten the timelines involved and to bring in more transparency. All the applications from here onwards will directly go to the Deputy Director of Public Instruction (DDPI) instead of Block Education Officers (BEO).

Minister of School Education and Literacy B. C. Nagesh launched the new application S.A.T.S., which would help school managements with the online procedures, in Bengaluru on Friday, "The procedures to be done through the Education Department were long and not completely transparent. We wanted to correct these glitches in the process and ensure that applications are processed at the district level," he said.

The information submitted by schools during the process will be made available on the website of the department, and can be viewed by all people.

A file photo of Minister of School Education and Literacy B.C. Nagesh. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

While initiating the process for registration of a new school, the managements will now have to go through four stages, instead of eight stages earlier. The time period has been cut down from 27 days to 17 days.

The new norms mandate the uploading of geotagged documents, photos and videos of the basic infrastructure of the school at the time of submitting applications. Only 5% of the total applications will be selected randomly for physical inspection by a three-member committee, while the remaining 95% of applications will be processed by the DDPI. The registration certificate with a digital signature can be downloaded from the app by school managements.

Up to now, the application for U-DISE codes had to be submitted by the school managements. With the revision of the procedure, henceforth, the DDPI would apply for the same, obtain it and then issue first recognition. The timeline for this procedure has been reduced to 14 days from 27 days. The timeline to obtain an NOC has been reduced from 26 steps to four steps, and from 90 days to 15 days.

"The power, which was with the Minister, has now been brought to the DDPI level," Mr Nagesh said. From the next academic year, parents can check the licence number, NOC and infrastructure of schools on the department's website to ensure that schools are not unauthorised.

No action against unauthorised schools until exams are over

Keeping in mind the future of thousands of children, no action will be taken against unauthorised schools until the examinations of the current academic year conclude.

Mr. Nagesh said, "We will take all steps possible within the framework of the law against unauthorised schools, but only after examinations. We do not want to cause trouble to students in such schools."

Panic mode: Workers from other States waiting at the railway station in Coimbatore on Friday. M. PERIASAMY

As rumours set off panic, T.N. govt. seeks to pacify migrants

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI/COIMBATORE

With rumour-mongers and a section of Bihar politicians triggering panic among Hindi-speaking labourers claiming they were being targeted in Tamil Nadu, the State government and industrialists on Friday stepped in to assure the labourers of their safety.

Acknowledging that the workers from north India were integral to the development of infrastructure in Tamil Nadu, Labour Welfare Minister C.V. Ganesan said workers from all States were working "peacefully and efficiently without any threat whatsoever".

The district administrations in Coimbatore and Tiruppur, where a large number of migrant workers were employed, issued appeals in Hindi urging the workers not to panic.

Collectors and industrial associations also set up helplines for workers to reach out. A section of industrialists said some of the workers were taken in by the rumours and wanted to leave for their native place.

The Labour Minister, in a statement, accused miscreants of spreading rumours on social media with an "ulterior motive" and said labourers were aware there was no truth in such claims. "Appropriate action is being taken against persons who attempt to spread rumours in Tamil Nadu, which is known for social and industrial peace," he said.

The problem reportedly started a week ago and some worried workers complained to their owners that they were getting messages about threats to their safety. "With such false messages being shared, the migrant workers are getting scared. The State should take strict action against those sharing such messages," said T. Rajkumar, chairman of Confederation of Indian Textile Industry.

Tamil Nadu BJP president K. Annamalai said migrant workers are safe in Tamil Nadu and there is a deliberate attempt to malign the State's reputation through false news.

WHO puts Kerala girl on World Hearing Day poster

Rizwana, a final-year MBBS student who underwent cochlear implantation as a child, proves that early newborn screening and consistent follow-up interventions like speech therapy can save hearing impaired children from being disabled for life

C. Maya
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Rizwana was six years old when she first heard the music of rain and the joyous twitter of birds in the morning. She did not know till then that her anklets could produce such a melodious jingle or that hearing her mother's voice for the first time can bring her such joy.

A final-year MBBS student at the Government Medical College Hospital, Kottayam, Ms. Rizwana is a living example that early newborn screening and consistent interventions can save many hearing impaired children from being disabled for life.

Rizwana aspires to be an ENT surgeon.

It is Ms. Rizwana's story that WHO India has chosen to put on its poster on World Hearing Day (March 3) to send out this powerful message to millions.

It was the determination and grit of her parents – Abdul Rasheed and Sabitha of Mannanchery, Alappuzha – that made it possible for Ms. Rizwana to hear and speak normally, despite she being a late candidate for cochlear implantation.

Her hearing impairment was identified when she was a year old. Her parents had no idea about cochlear implantation at the time but she was put on rigorous speech therapy and was home-schooled. When the implantation was done at the age of six, her hearing was restored but doctors were not sure that she would speak.

"My parents put in so much hard work to consistently train me with speech therapy. It is because they never gave up on me that despite the late cochlear implantation, I could speak and hear normally," she says.

Cochlear implant is an electronic hearing device designed to produce useful hearing sensations to a person with severe to profound nerve deafness by electrically stimulating nerves in the inner ear, when implanted. The implantation is recommended as early as possible, before 18 months of age.

For Ms. Rizwana, the ENT surgeon who introduced her to the world of sounds is her hero. And she hopes to be an ENT surgeon one day.

'Kerala CM violated FCRA norms in LIFE Mission case'

The Hindu Bureau
THRISSUR

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has violated the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act norms in the Wadakkanchery LIFE Mission case, former Wadakkanchery MLA Anil Akkara has alleged.

Addressing mediapersons, Mr. Akkara came up with what he termed a confidential report sent by LIFE Mission CEO U.V. Jose on August 18, 2020 to the private secretary of the Minister of Local Self-Government as proof of his allegation. He said he would move the Supreme Court with a special petition and submit the documents to reveal the involvement Mr. Vijayan in the case.

Picking the watchdog

Court verdict on manner of choosing poll panel is a boost to its independence

The Supreme Court verdict taking away the power to appoint members of the Election Commission of India (ECI) from the sole domain of the executive is a major boost to the independence of the election watchdog. The Court has ruled that a three-member committee comprising the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, or the leader of the single largest Opposition party, and the Chief Justice of India (CJI), will choose the CEC and ECs until a law in passed. As a constitutional body vested with plenary powers of superintendence, direction and control over elections, the ECI is a vital component of the republic that requires functional freedom and constitutional protection to ensure free and fair elections. It has been the practice that the President appoints the CEC and ECs on the advice of the Prime Minister, but the Constitution Bench has pointed out that the original intent of the Constitution makers was that the manner of appointment should be laid down in a parliamentary law. Article 324 says the President should appoint the CEC and Commissioners, subject to any law made in that behalf by Parliament. However, successive regimes have failed to enact a law. Justice K.M. Joseph, who has authored the main verdict, has based the Court's decision on "the inertia" of the legislature and the perceived vacuum in the absence of a law.

Few would disagree with the Court's fundamental proposition that the election watchdog should be fiercely independent and not be beholden to the executive; and there should be no room for an appointing authority to expect reciprocity or loyalty. The government's argument that the existing system was working well and there was no vacuum was quite weak, as, admittedly, the convention now is that the Prime Minister chooses a name from among a database of high-ranking civil servants and advises the President to make the appointment. However, a relevant question is whether the presence of the CJI in the selection panel is the only way in which an institution's independence can be preserved. There is no clear proof that the independence of the CBI director, who is appointed by a panel that includes the CJI, or his nominee, has been preserved or enhanced. Further, the CJI's presence may give pre-emptive legitimacy to all appointments and affect objective judicial scrutiny of any error or infirmity in the process. On its part, the government will be well-advised to enact a law – but not one that seeks to preserve the current convention to get around the verdict – that is in tune with the spirit of the Court's emphasis on the ECI's independence.

Creative formulas

India must help find the middle ground on Ukraine among the G-20

After the conclusion of two key G-20 ministerial meetings, of the Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governers (FMCBG) in Bengaluru and Foreign Ministers Meeting (FMM) in Delhi, without consensus over the Ukraine war, diplomats and G-20 officials must pause for a stock-taking exercise on the government's strategy for its G-20 presidency. The FMCBG is part of the key "Finance track" of the 20 most advanced economies, set up in 1999 to help global economic coordination after the Asian financial crisis. The other, the "Sherpa track", works on the G-20's goal setting process. With the experience India gained in Indonesia last year to bridge the Russia-West divide, the challenges for India's presidency, amid dynamic geopolitical changes, should have been clear. In Bengaluru, however, the surprise was when Russia and China refused to accept the language on the Ukraine war that they had agreed to just three months ago. As a result, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman was constrained to issue only a Chair's summary and outcome document, rather than a joint communique. The government also decided to include the paragraphs that Russia and China had objected to, naming them in the document. This is something of a precedent, as last year, the Indonesian chair's joint communiques at the Leader level and FMCBG expressed the sentiments of "many" and "most" countries. After the brinkmanship in Bengaluru, it was ambitious, if not a bit surprising, that the government chose to attempt negotiations for a joint statement for the FMM. Eventually, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar issued a Chairman's summary and outcome documents too, citing differences over the two Bali paragraphs. This was a first, as FMMs have not attempted to issue statements at all.

While the two meetings have given India's G-20 process a rocky start, there is a long road ahead to the Leaders' summit in September. Mr. Jaishankar has pointed out that the bulk of the statements that pertain to the critical issues for the Global South, such as food and energy security and debt management, have been ironed out. Second, there is clarity that India cannot bank on the language of the Bali Summit, and Sherpas will need to iron out a new consensus language on Ukraine. This will require a keen ear and creative formulas that take into account Russian grievances with the language, as well as the western desire to retain its successes in condemning Russia's actions in the Bali document. As host, India is in the 'hot-seat' and will benefit from enlisting those countries in the grouping other than the entrenched camps of the G-7, U.S.-led developed world, and the now-strengthened Russia-China combine, to ensure that a middle path is found.

Nepal's coalition politics, a game of musical chairs

Coalition politics in Nepal increasingly resembles the game of musical chairs; in Kathmandu too, it is the same cast of characters who have been taking turns for nearly two decades. The tragedy is that scant attention is paid to the critical issues – unemployment, national indebtedness and development challenges.

Rakesh Sood

is a former diplomat who has served as Ambassador to Nepal

A coalition collapses again

The last coalition government, formed in December after the elections last November, has lasted just two months. It was stitched together by UML leader K.P. Sharma Oli with the idea of breaking away the Maoists by promising the prime-ministership to their leader Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda'.

Mr. Prachanda had formed an alliance with Mr. Oli in 2018 that broke down in 2020 after a series of decisions by Mr. Oli (he was then Prime Minister) seeking to marginalise Prachanda and other senior leaders. Later, Prachanda and the Madhav Nepal-led breakaway faction of UML, rechristened as the CPN (Unified-Socialist), joined with the Nepali Congress (NC) and formed an electoral alliance in 2022.

The Nepali Congress emerged as the largest party with 89 seats (the House strength is 275) and Maoists were a distant third with 32. Power-sharing talks collapsed because Prachanda insisted on becoming Prime Minister first. Knowing Prachanda's weakness, Mr. Oli made him an offer he could not refuse. On December 26, Mr. Prachanda was sworn in as Prime Minister and in return, he assured support to the UML for the posts of House Speaker and President. Six other parties had joined the coalition. These included disparate groups such as the Rashtriya Prajatantra Party (14 seats) that espouses a pro-monarchy and a pro-Hindutva agenda, and the newly created Rashtriya Swatantra Party (20 seats) consisting of professionals who professed disenchantment with the rampant opportunism in traditional Nepali politics. However, both were tempted with offers of Deputy Prime Minister-ships and Prachanda's cabinet had four deputy Prime Ministers, one each from the Maoists, UML, RSP and RPP.

Within weeks, Prachanda started chafing as Mr. Oli reverted to his old autocratic ways of calling the shots from behind the scenes. Realising that with the Oli nominees as President and Speaker he could easily be out manoeuvred, Prachanda reached out to the NC. Anticipating this, NC had voted in support of Prachanda in the confidence vote on January 10, announcing that it had done so in the interests of national consensus governance that could provide stability. Prachanda saw his opportunity to return the favour by espousing the idea of a national consensus presidency and promised support to the NC's candidate Ram Chandra Poudel. The UML called it a "betrayal" and pulled out of the coalition. However, other than the RPP, the other members of the Oli-led coalition declined to follow, announcing their support for Poudel's candidature.

As far as Kathmandu is concerned, India must focus on connectivity and development as a good 'neighbourhood first' policy

Presidential elections

The Election Commission has announced that presidential elections will be held on March 9, followed by elections for the Vice-President on March 17. Since the code of conduct will be in effect till March 19, no overt political activity is possible. Given that Mr. Prachanda is now heading a minority government with 16 vacant cabinet positions, power-sharing talks will gain momentum though the final outcome will remain a matter of speculation.

Mr. Prachanda has till month end to seek a fresh vote of confidence. Once Mr. Poudel is elected, the NC is likely to throw its weight behind Prachanda. The RSP, Janata Samajbadi Party (12 seats), Janmat Party (six seats) and the Nagrik Unmukti Party (three seats), earlier with the Oli coalition, have switched their support to Mr. Poudel. In addition, NC coalition members, the Loktantrik Samajbadi Party (four seats), CPN (U-S) (10 seats) and Rashtriya Janamorcha (one seat) will also support Mr. Poudel.

The UML has put up former Speaker Subas Nembang as its presidential candidate. The electoral college for these elections is made up of 275 members of the House of Representatives and the 59 members of the National Assembly together with the 550 members of the seven provincial assemblies, with votes being weighted. Given the current assurances of support, Mr. Poudel will win with nearly three-fourths of the electoral college. In the election for the Vice-President, it appears that the JSP candidate will obtain the coalition backing.

Prachanda's real challenge will emerge the following week. Managing negotiations between the competing demands of the NC and these seven parties will not be easy. This is his third stint as Prime Minister; his first time in 2008 was the only time he came to power on the basis of his electoral victory but his coalition collapsed in less than a year because he failed to make the transition from being Comrade Prachanda to an elected leader. The second and third times have been purely opportunistic gambles of teaming up with Oli and then getting burnt. After the second time, he even naively merged his party with the UML in 2018. Fortunately for him, the Supreme Court annulled the merger in 2021 giving him a political lifeline. However, he candidly admits to being easily tempted. On the other hand, NC leader Sher Bahadur Deuba, nearly 78 and a five-time Prime Minister, is convinced that he should be Prime Minister again. Hopefully, the events of the last two months should have a sobering influence on both because while Deuba's intransigence led to the breakdown of talks in December, Prachanda should realise that his bromance with Mr. Oli will always be short lived.

The foreign hand

Since 2008, when Nepal declared a republic, the game of political musical chairs has been a regular phenomenon. In 15 years, Nepal has had three NC Prime Ministers (G.P. Koirala, Sushil Koirala and Sher Bahadur Deuba twice), two Maoist Prime Ministers (Prachanda, now thrice, and Baburam Bhattarai), three UML Prime Ministers (Madhav Nepal, Jhala Nath Khanal and K.P. Oli twice), and a Chief Justice as caretaker Prime Minister in 2013. It is the resulting disenchantment of the electorate that led to new political forces in the 2022 elections.

Normally, it is during these rounds of musical chairs that Nepali politicians start wearing their 'nationalist' colours by looking for the convenient scapegoat of the 'foreign hand'. While India has often been blamed, China has played a visible hand in seeking to keep a united communist front but has failed to find a compromise between Oli's egoistical tendencies and Prachanda's opportunistic impulses. In recent years, India has retrieved some lost ground by focusing on project implementation, such as the Jayanagar-Bardibas railway and the Motihari-Amlekhgunj oil pipeline. Power export from Nepal has picked up: the agreement for 364 MW signed in June has yielded export earnings of $60 million in 2022, while looking at increasing power transmission on the 400 kV Muzaffarpur-Dhalkebar line to 800 MW. The 900 MW Arun 3 is expected to be operational later in 2023. Meanwhile, some of the high-profile infrastructure projects by China have generated concerns about their economic viability and long-term debt implications.

A good 'neighbourhood first' policy for India is to focus on connectivity and development while letting the Nepali politicians continue with their game of 'musical chairs'.

Clean-tech as the next big thing in rural India

What do Meera Jatt, a dairy company director from the Dooni Tonk area in Rajasthan, Pooja Verma, who organised and trained hundreds of women in silk reeling, and Lalita Devi, who leads a farmer producer company with a ₹6 crore annual turnover in Fatehpur, Uttar Pradesh have in common? They are women from rural India who have adopted clean energy-based livelihood technologies to catalyse their businesses. From solar refrigerators to silk-reeling machines and biomass-based cold storage to bulk milk chillers, distributed renewable energy (DRE) is transforming women's livelihoods at the grassroots.

Prachi Singhal

is a gender specialist consultant at the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW), an independent, not-for-profit research organisation

Mousumi Kabiraj

is a research analyst at the Council on Energy, Environment and Water

A recent Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW) study has shown that out of the 13,000 early adopters of clean tech livelihood appliances, more than 80% are women. DRE-powered technologies provide an additional advantage to women farmers and microentrepreneurs by enhancing income opportunities through mechanisation. They also free women from several gender-assigned manual activities that are laborious.

By 2030, India is expected to see 30 million women-owned micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) employing around 150 million people. DRE livelihood technologies – a $50 billion market opportunity in India alone – have the potential to transform rural livelihoods, with women at the core of this transition.

But how do we scale up this impact from thousands of women to millions of them? Here are key steps from reaching rural women as part of the Powering Livelihoods initiative.

First, leverage the experience of early women adopters. Because of their novelty and high starting price, DRE appliances are perceived as high-risk purchases, especially by women users with a relatively lower risk appetite due to socio-economic reasons. To overcome the challenge, technology providers must leverage early users to share their experiences with potential customers, becoming demo champions/sales agents to market these products, based on their first-hand product experience and local credibility.

Clean energy solutions are transforming women's livelihoods at the grassroots, but they need to be scaled up

For example, Kissan Dharmbir, an energy-efficient food processor manufacturer, engaged Neetu Tandan, an Agra-based micro-entrepreneur using the processor to produce fruit squashes and jams, as a demo champion. Her demonstrations are generating sales leads.

Importance of live events, financing

Second, organise hyperlocal events and demos. People want to touch and see a high-tech, high-ticket-size product before believing in its ability and promised benefits, especially when it comes to women who historically have limited access to new information. These events also create spaces for women to network, become aware of the product and connect with people who can help them procure, finance and use these machines. At an event in Hamirpur, Uttar Pradesh, more than 200 women booked seven appliances on the spot, including solar sewing machines and multi-purpose food processors.

Third, enable easy finance to purchase products. Limited avenues to avail financing for these clean technology products remain a bottleneck. Financiers supporting women farmers and microentrepreneurs should consider the technologies themselves as collaterals while easing the loan application process. For example, Samunnati Finance, a financier in the agri-value chain, availed an 80% first-loan default guarantee to support six women-led FPOs in Andhra Pradesh that purchased 100-kg solar dryers.

Technology manufacturers and promoters should also ensure adequate after-sales services and buy-backs. To build financiers' confidence, evidence on the economic viability of these technologies should be shared and promoters must offer partial default guarantees.

Fourth, support backwards and forward market linkages. Only technology provision is not enough in all cases. Many rural products have larger market potential. Thus, finding and connecting producers to consumption hubs in urban areas are equally important to generate higher incomes.

Women often struggle with established market linkages because of their limited mobility and networks outside their villages. Here, collectivising women or establishing business models that enable them to sell to an intermediary can ensure a regular revenue stream. Reshamsutra, a manufacturer of solar silk-reeling machines, is partnering with local procurement organisations to establish silk cocoon banks and equipment training for women reelers in Chhattisgarh.

Facilitate convergence

Fifth, enable policy convergence. No private sector entity has the kind of reach and scale government institutions have, so leveraging their reach is imperative to exponentially scale up. Multiple Ministries are working towards promoting livelihoods for women – from State rural livelihood missions, horticulture and agriculture departments, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, to the Ministry of Textiles. They should embrace clean energy solutions to further their respective programmes and outcomes.

Much like it takes a village to raise a child, scaling the impact of clean energy solutions on women's livelihoods needs a village of policymakers, investors, financiers, technology promoters and other ecosystem enablers. Only then can we truly unlock the potential of rural women and clean technologies simultaneously.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Panel to pick the CEC

The Supreme Court of India's direction to have the President of India appoint the Chief Election Commissioner and Election Commissioners based on the recommendation of a top panel is historic. This move will strengthen the powers of the Election Commission of India (ECI) to conduct free and fair elections in the country given that the ECI is regarded as the guardian of elections in the country.

P.K. Andavan,
Paruthipully, Palakkad, Kerala

The efficacy of an election commission is as much dependent on the acumen of its members as it is on the electoral system that, *inter alia*, ensures transparency of political funding. In the absence of clear directives about transparent funding to parties, as it exists even today, T.N. Seshan had put to good use prescribed powers to monitor poll expenses. The mode of appointing Election Commissioners has been under cogitation earlier too. In its November 2022 deliberations, the top court had recorded: "There have been numerous CECs and T.N. Seshan happens once in a while. Enormous power has been vested on the fragile shoulders of three men [the CEC and two Election Commissioners]. We have to find the best man for the post of CEC." That exhortation is meant to go beyond the constituents of the commission, to the vital cause of strengthening the foundation of democracy.

R. Narayanan,
Mumbai

That the life of the panel ends with Parliament enacting a law on the appointments of members of the ECI is like a Damocles sword above the people. Still, Parliament, it is hoped, would follow the general directions. Incidentally, these are applicable to other constitutional entities.

P.R.V. Raja,
Pandalam, Kerala

Livelihood option

The report on ornamental aquaculture to help Lakshadweep's women as a livelihood option remains to be fully exploited in India. Despite numerous naturally occurring colour fish, India's participation in the global export trade of ornamental fish is just a dot. States with a vast coastal line and naturally occurring colour fish offer opportunities to ensure a viable, sustainable livelihood option.

Dr. V. Purushothaman,
Chennai

Corrections & Clarifications

Two reports, "Sri Lanka bans strikes ahead of mass protest" (March 1, 2023) and "Sri Lanka's worker unions go on defiant strike" (March 2, 2023), erroneously gave the quantum of the IMF package as $2.9 million. It should have been $2.9 billion.

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GROUND ZERO

'Waris Punjab De' head Amritpal Singh and his supporters at the Ajnala police station demanding the release of Amritpal's close associate, Lovepreet Singh alias Toofan Singh, in an alleged kidnapping and theft case, on February 23. PTI

In Punjab, fear of the return of 'dark days'

Terror and insecurity have gripped Punjab after an armed mob, led by radical preacher Amritpal Singh, laid siege to a police station in Ajnala on February 23 and got their demand fulfilled. While the people believe that there is no widespread pro-Khalistan sentiment, they perceive a breakdown of law and order in the State and demand immediate action against anti-social elements from the Punjab government, reports **Vikas Vasudeva**

Anil Kumar (name changed), a 62-year-old cloth merchant in Ajnala in western Punjab, was anguished. Having lived through the tumultuous period of the 1980s, when there was a decade-long insurgency in Punjab over the demand for 'Khalistan', or a sovereign state for Sikhs, he instantly knows when there is trouble brewing. Sitting in the main market of Ajnala, Anil recalled some of the incidents of last year in the border State which sent a chill down his spine: the murder of rapper and songwriter Sidhu Moosewala in Mansa district, the explosion at the Punjab Police's Intelligence Wing headquarters in Mohali, and the killing of a Dera Sacha Sauda follower in Kotkapura in a shoot-out. The latest incident which has left him worried took place near his shop.

It happened on Thursday, February 23. Led by the self-styled Sikh preacher and pro-Khalistan propagator Amritpal Singh, a mob armed with swords, guns and sharp weapons barged into the Ajnala police station, a few kilometres from the International Border with Pakistan. They protested against the arrest of Amritpal's close associate, Lovepreet Singh alias Toofan Singh, in an alleged kidnapping and theft case. Amritpal demanded that the First Information Report (FIR) filed against Lovepreet and him be cancelled, and his aide be released. Calling the FIR "politically motivated," Amritpal issued a threat: if his demands were not met, "the administration would be responsible for whatever happens," he said. He even warned the police about registering an FIR in the case surrounding the incident at Ajnala.

The stunned police gave in to his demand. Senior Superintendent of Police (Amritsar Rural) Satinder Singh said, "According to the evidence given by Lovepreet's supporters, he was not present at the spot where the alleged incident (assault and kidnapping) occurred. So, the police submitted the evidence before the court for his discharge. We have set up a Special Investigation Team to probe the matter (FIR) based on which Lovepreet was arrested. Once its report is out, a decision will be taken." Lovepreet was released after a local court issued the order.

Days after the incident, the Punjab government transferred 18 police officers, including Amritsar Commissioner of Police Jaskaran Singh. But despite six policemen getting injured in the violence at the station, the police are yet to register any FIR in the Ajnala matter. Punjab Director General of Police (DGP) Gaurav Yadav said "action will be taken against those who attacked the police" after "analysing the video footage."

Anil said seeing the mob carrying weapons at Ajnala reminded him of the days when youngsters would walk the streets of Punjab, some four decades ago, flaunting guns and swords. "If a group of people can attack a police station, if a police station is not safe, then how can the people feel secure," he asked. "Right now, I am as scared as I used to be during that period of terrorism. It's not just me, many feel the same way."

'Fear is bound to creep in'

Three days after the incident, there was an uneasy calm in Ajnala. It was the last Sunday of the month. While the local market is usually closed on this day, it was open that Sunday as traders and shopkeepers were hoping to make up for the lost business of the previous three days.

> What happened cannot be justified. If the government is really strong, not even a leaf can move.
>
> **PARVEZ**
> Vegetable vendor

Bittu, 50, a taxi driver, hardly had any business in the days following the mob incident in Ajnala. "There were barricades installed on the main road and at our taxi stand. Taxi operators did not come here because there was tension. Now, things seem to have settled down, but most people don't seem to want to venture out unnecessarily," he said.

Close to the police station complex, several police personnel, including the anti-riots force, were still deployed. The local police, however, asserted that the "situation was under control."

Anil begged to differ. "Several instances of gangster-related incidents have taken place in the State. All these indicate that the incumbent government is weak," he said. While he did not deny that there were crimes before the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) came to power, now "there is no fear of the law," Anil said. "If the situation is not brought under control immediately, it could become worse."

The AAP government in Punjab, which came to power nearly a year ago, has largely been on the back foot over the breakdown of law and order. Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann has been downplaying the situation by asserting that no one will be allowed to disturb the hard-earned peace of the State and the government is committed to maintaining law and order. Days after the incident, he said 'Khalistan' supporters were receiving aid from Pakistan and other countries. Only a handful of people supported the pro-Khalistan movement, and the Punjab police is fully capable of handling the situation, he said.

But the people are not convinced. Parvez, a 32-year-old vegetable vendor, sits a few metres from the Ajnala police station. While attending to customers, he said, "What happened that day cannot be justified. An armed group of people laid siege to a police station. If the government is really strong, not even a leaf can move."

Another shop owner said such incidents will cease to take place only if there is political will. "The government needs to tackle fringe elements who are vitiating the atmosphere. It needs to take immediate action against them. There is a strong bond between all the communities here. The majority of the people don't support the pro-Khalistan narrative. But if violent incidents take place, fear is bound to creep in," he said.

Police personnel stand vigil at Ajnala days after a violent mob stormed into the local police station. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

Narinder Bhamra, a Ludhiana-based industrialist and president of the Fastener Manufacturers Association of India, pointed out that the incident took place on the same day that the Punjab government held the Progressive Punjab Investors Summit at Mohali. "This leaves the impression that government is not in control of the situation on the ground. How can a few hundred anti-social elements attack a police station and get their demands accepted? And no FIR has been registered against those involved. What does this indicate? If this is the situation, let alone a new industry coming to the State, even the existing industry will think of moving out," he said.

Increasing militant activity

Amritpal, 30, is known to speak the language of separatism and secession. The radical preacher, who was born in 1993, hails from Amritsar district. He left India to work in his family's truck-related business in Dubai in 2012. In 2022, he returned to take over as the head of Waris Punjab De, which was set up by actor-turned-activist Deep Sidhu, who died in a road accident in February last year. Amritpal's anointment ceremony was held at Rode village in Moga district, which is the native village of the slain militant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, and reverberated with pro-Khalistan slogans. According to Sidhu, who rose to prominence during the agitation against the three farm laws, Waris Punjab De's mission is to protect the rights and culture of Punjab and raise social issues.

> If the protesters were carrying the Guru Granth Sahib, what was the Intelligence doing? It was a total collapse of the Intelligence machinery.
>
> **SHASHI KANT**
> Former Punjab DGP

Amritpal is a self-confessed follower of Bhindranwale and even dresses like him. Sporting a navy blue turban, a white robe, and a sword-sized 'kirpan,' the sacred dagger of the Sikhs, he is always surrounded by weapon-wielding guards. He has said that "glorification of weapons is not a crime." Referring to the Khalistan movement, he said, "Has the Prime Minister or Home Minister ever said that they will stop people who talk about a 'Hindu Rashtra'? It means there's discrimination... Sikhs have their aspirations and Hindus have theirs, while they [Hindus] can freely talk about theirs, we [Sikhs] can't. I firmly believe that it [the Khalistan movement] can't be stopped from flourishing."

The concern over Amritpal's statements and activities is palpable beyond Ajnala, especially since there have been a series of incidents with Khalistan links in Punjab, which have rekindled fears of an armed militancy.

Last year, on April 29, a curfew was imposed in Patiala soon after a group that calls itself Shiv Sena (Bal Thackeray) clashed with pro-Khalistani activists. The Shiv Sena (Bal Thackeray) had sought permission to hold a march against the backdrop of the announcement by the banned Sikhs for Justice (SFJ) outfit to mark the foundation day of Khalistan. The following month, a few 'Khalistan' flags were found hung on the main gate and separatist slogans were found scribbled on the boundary walls of the Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly premises in Dharamshala. Both these incidents took place following an appeal by the SFJ leader.

In May, a rocket-propelled grenade was fired at the headquarters of the Punjab Police Intelligence Wing in Mohali. The police indicated that the Babbar Khalsa International, a terror organisation striving for a separate Sikh state, and a nexus of gangsters and Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence were behind the attack.

On December 8, the National Investigation Agency arrested alleged terrorist and pro-Khalistan operative Bikramjit Singh, who was wanted in connection with the Tarn Taran bomb blast in Punjab in September 2019, after his extradition from Austria. Two people were killed in the blast. And on December 16, the Punjab police claimed that it had solved the rocket-propelled grenade attack on the Sarhali police station in Tarn Taran, by busting a foreign-controlled terror module.

Despite these incidents, it would be wrong to assume that there is a revival of a pro-Khalistan movement, said Kamaljot Singh, 25, from Ajnala. "I don't think it's going to happen. I don't want it to happen. I believe that if everyone is united, only then will we prosper. While I appreciate Amritpal's initiative against the drug menace, violence cannot be justified," Kamaljot said.

'Failure of intelligence'

Incidents such as the one at Ajnala and the lack of action taken against the mob will only "embolden radical elements," said Shashi Kant, a former Punjab DGP, who has served in numerous intelligence agencies. "It equally raises questions about police Intelligence," he said. "If the protesters were carrying the Guru Granth Sahib, what was the Intelligence doing? It was a total collapse of the Intelligence machinery."

But Kant was also quick to praise the police. "When the protesters attacked the police while carrying the Guru Granth Sahib, the police exercised restraint. That is commendable," he said.

Kant seemed nonplussed by the lack of action against Amritpal. He said, "This is a total failure on the part of the government, and it's demoralising for the police. While I don't see any revival of the Khalistan movement in the absence of popular support, concerns over the activeness of Khalistan sympathisers or pro-militant elements across Punjab and other States can't be ignored."

Since Punjab is a border state, law and order has always been a delicate domain and the government needs to handle such sensitive situations carefully, others said. "The State has been vulnerable to the machinations of inimical, and not necessarily all foreign, forces," said Ronki Ram, Shaheed Bhaghat Singh Chair Professor of Political Science at Panjab University.

The Waris Punjab De has been making headlines ever since Amritpal took over as its head, Ram said. "The Ajnala incident needs to be located within the broader context of various public utterances by its current president and the responses to those by the State government. It seems like the law enforcement agencies took precautionary measures to prevent this from swelling into another issue of communal conflict. This is especially important at a time when the long-drawn-out [2015] 'Bargari sacrilege' case still remains under investigation. The line of action taken by the current regime is politically correct; a contrary stance could easily have led to an inflammatory situation. However, there is another equally important, but often neglected, dimension that needs to be boldly underlined, which is to figure out how to preempt such a situation from arising at all. There is a dire need to apply the lessons learned in the past."

Ram also demanded to know why both the State government and prominent Sikh institutional bodies have been restrained in their statements after the events led by Amritpal. "This could lead to accusations of complicity, for political goals or other considerations," he said.

While many are asking questions of the administration, Gurpinder, who runs a roadside dhaba at Rayya town on the busy Delhi-Amritsar National Highway, had a more immediate worry. "I usually get a handsome number of customers at the weekend. But this week hardly anyone has stepped in," he said.

Anil was clear that if the situation worsens, he would leave Punjab. "It would be terrible if Punjab saw those dark days again," he said.

From Page One

One-time chance to opt for Old Pension Scheme

The Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare (DPPW) held extensive consultations with the Ministries of Finance and Law and Departments of Expenditure and Personnel and reached a consensus to allow the employees the option to switch to the OPS. In 2020, the DPPW gave one-time option to those Central government employees to opt for the OPS who were declared successful for recruitment in the results declared before December 31, 2003. However, representation was received from government employees referring to court judgment and orders by the Central Administrative Tribunals that allowed them to migrate to the OPS. Following this, the DPPW moved a proposal to issue a general circular to extend the benefit of the judgments to similarly placed employees. Union Minister of State for Personnel Jitendra Singh approved the proposal on Friday.

The exact number of employees who will be covered under the new order is not known and it will be known after eligible employees have exercised the option, said the official. "The government was spending time and resources in fighting such cases in court. There were several orders by High Courts and even the Supreme Court to give OPS benefits to those recruits who applied for jobs before the NPS was notified," said the official.

Till January 31, a total of 23,65,693 Central employees and 60,32,768 State government employees have enrolled under the NPS. Except West Bengal, all States had implemented the NPS.

Conrad K. Sangma to form govt. in Meghalaya

Mr. Conrad Sangma paraded 29 newly elected members - 26 of the NPP, two of the BJP and an independent - before Governor Phagu Chauhan, but told journalists later that he had the support of 32 MLAs-elect. Minutes later, former CM and Trinamool Congress leader Mukul M. Sangma said the numbers were not with the NPP. The Trinamool had won five of the 55 seats it contested. "They (NPP and BJP) may have met the Governor but we have the numbers. We are confident that the Governor will invite us to form the government," he said, pointing out that 29 was not the majority mark in a 60-member House.

Mr. Mukul Sangma held a meeting with the leaders of the UDP, which bagged 11 seats, and the newly floated Voice of the People Party which won four seats. Mr. Conrad Sangma had the last laugh, though as he announced that he had received a signed letter of support from two MLA-elects of the Hill State People's Democratic Party (HSPDP) and another independent. "With two each from the BJP and HSPDP and two independents, we have the support of 32 MLAs," Mr. Conrad Sangma said. But the development took another twist when HSPDP president K.P. Pangniang and secretary P. Ryntathiang wrote to Mr. Conrad Sangma saying the party had not authorised its "two MLAs to lend support".

In Nagaland, former Chief Minister T.R. Zeliang said, "Our party president, Chingwang Konyak convened a meeting of the newly elected members who chose Neiphiu Rio as the legislature party leader."

In Agartala, Manik Saha submitted his resignation to Governor Satyadeo Narain Arya as the Chief Minister of Tripura and staked a claim to form the new government.

"The swearing-in is tentatively on March 8 in the presence of the Prime Minister, Home Minister and other central leaders of the BJP," Mr. Saha said. Meanwhile, Tripura royal scion Pradyot Bikram Manikya Debbarma said the TIPRA Motha would play a constructive role in the Opposition but "will not sit"' with the members of the Left Front and Congress.

Democracy is under attack, Oppn. leaders being spied on: Rahul

At a lecture in the University of Cambridge, Congress leader says he was snooped upon using Pegasus spyware and dissent was being curtailed

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Indian democracy was under threat and several Opposition leaders, including himself, were being snooped upon by using Israeli spyware Pegasus, former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi told a group of students at Cambridge University.

Mr. Gandhi's lecture at the university, which was delivered on February 28, was shared on Twitter by Congress leader Sam Pitroda on Friday.

"Indian democracy is under pressure and under attack. The institutional framework which is required for a democracy... Parliament, free press, the judiciary, just the idea of mobilisation... these are all getting constrained. We are facing an attack on the basic structure of democracy," he had said.

> I have been called by intelligence officers who say please be careful of what you say on the phone as we are recording the stuff
>
> **RAHUL GANDHI**
> Congress leader

"A large number of political leaders have Pegasus on their phones. I myself had Pegasus on my phone. I have been called by intelligence officers who say please be careful of what you say on the phone as we are recording the stuff," he claimed.

The former Congress president cited key aspects of the alleged assault on democracy: capture and control of media and judiciary, surveillance and intimidation, coercion by federal law enforcement agencies, attacks on tribals, Dalits and minorities and shutting down of dissent.

"As the Opposition, it is very difficult to communicate with people when you have this type of an assault on media and on the democratic architecture. So, we decided to go back to Indian history and culture," Mr. Gandhi said, explaining the motivation behind his 4,081 km-long Bharat Jodo Yatra.

Responding to BJP's allegations that Mr. Gandhi's remarks had maligned India, Congress spokesperson and social media head Supriya Shrinate said Prime Minister Narendra Modi had raked up domestic politics on foreign soil and had even made "fun of the country by saying people were ashamed of being born as Indians".

'Rahul Gandhi is maligning our country on foreign soil'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur on Friday accused Congress leader Rahul Gandhi of maligning India on foreign soil because of being unable to deal with successive electoral defeats.

Mr. Thakur's remarks came after Mr. Gandhi claimed that he was under surveillance by intelligence agencies using the Israel spyware Pegasus. In a speech at Cambridge University, the Congress leader said that Indian democracy was under threat and that several politicians, including himself, were under surveillance.

"We can understand his hatred towards Prime Minister Modi, but the conspiracy to malign the country on foreign soil with the help of foreign friends raises questions on the agenda of the Congress," Mr. Thakur said. He also wondered what prevented Mr. Gandhi and other Congress leaders from submitting their phones to a Supreme Court-appointed technical committee that probed the Pegasus case.

Cong. asks PM to look into Adani Group's 'Chinese connections'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Jairam Ramesh says only a JPC probe can unravel the full political and financial dimensions of the 'mega scam'

The Congress on Friday, as part of its ongoing "*Hum Adani ke Hain Kaun*" (HAHK) series, accused Gautam Adani's elder brother Vinod Adani of operating shell companies in "collusion with Chinese nationals" and asked whether the Narendra Modi government would investigate the group.

Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said the focus of his fresh set of questions to Prime Minister Narendra Modi was on the alleged "disturbing Chinese connections" of the Adani Group that has control over critical Indian infrastructure such as ports and airports.

The Gautam Adani-led group had dismissed the charges levelled against it in the aftermath of the Hindenburg Research report as baseless and termed them "lies".

"A Chinese national, Chang Chung-Ling (aka Lingo-Chang) has been a director in several Adani Group companies along with Vinod Adani and has also made an appearance in the Panama Papers," Mr. Ramesh claimed. He said that in December 2017, South Korea seized the Panama-registered oil tanker *Koti* for transferring petroleum products to a North Korean tanker in violation of UN sanctions. "It emerged that the *Koti*, which South Korea subsequently scrapped, was owned by Chang Chung-Ling's sons. The Koti and the Koti Corporation are both on UN and U.S. sanctions lists," he added.

"There are deeper links with the Adani Group: Chien-Ting Chang is also known to be an owner of PMC Projects that helped construct Mundra and other Adani Group ports," the Congress leader alleged.

"Only a JPC [joint parliamentary committee] probe can unravel the full political and financial dimensions of the PM-linked Adani Maha Mega Scam. No expert can or will," Mr. Ramesh said in a tweet.

Local body polls: SC seeks response from U.P. govt. and SEC

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A Bench led by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud listed the case after three weeks

The Supreme Court on Friday sought responses from the Uttar Pradesh government and the State Election Commission (SEC) on a plea by a group of 14 Mayors to intervene in a case concerning the holding of local body elections in the State.

A three-judge Bench led by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud issued notice and listed the case after three weeks. The Mayors said they should be allowed to continue until new Municipal Corporations are in place.

The court, on January 4, had stayed an Allahabad High Court direction to the government and the Election Commission to hold local body elections without reservation for Other Backward Classes (OBC).

The order gave the government's Dedicated Backward Classes Commission time till March 31, 2023 to conduct a "contemporaneous rigorous empirical investigation", in accordance with the triple test conditions laid down by the Supreme Court, to identify backward classes who need political representation in the State.

The court had also adopted the High Court's direction to the State to form three-member committees headed by District Magistrates in places where the tenures of the elected bodies had expired. The tenures of incumbent office bearers in several municipalities were set to expire by the end of January.

Row erupts as J&K man's body found months after he was detained by Army

Peerzada Ashiq
SRINAGAR

The Jammu and Kashmir administration is awaiting the post-mortem report to take forward the probe into the death of a 33-year-old civilian from Kupwara of north Kashmir, who was arrested by the Army in December last year. His decomposed body was spotted this week after 75 days, from a jungle.

Abdul Rasheed Dar, a driver by profession, was detained by the Army on December 15 for 'questioning'. FILE PHOTO

Deputy Commissioner, Kupwara, Doifode Sagar Dattatray and Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP), Kupwara, Yougal Manhas have visited the man's family and assured "that the investigation will be conducted in a transparent and impartial manner".

The death was widely protested by the family and locals in Kunan Poshpora, even two days after the burial. "All we demand is justice. Action should be taken against those responsible for the killing," Khursheed Ahmad, a local sarpanch, said.

'Fled from custody'

Abdul Rasheed Dar, a driver by profession, was detained by the Army on December 15 for "questioning". According to police records, the Army maintained that Dar fled from custody. However, the family alleged that Dar died in custody. "We are sure he died the same week he was picked up by the Army. All we were demanding was his body for a decent burial," a close relative of Dar, on condition of anonymity, said.

Dar's disappearance sparked protests in north Kashmir and several political leaders demanded a thorough probe into the incident.

Sonia Gandhi admitted to hospital due to fever

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Former Congress president Sonia Gandhi has been admitted to the Sir Gangaram Hospital with fever and her condition is said to be stable.

"Smt. Sonia Gandhi, Chairperson UPA, has been admitted to Sir Gangaram Hospital under Dr. Arup Basu, Sr. Consultant Department of Chest Medicine and his team on 2nd Mar 2023 on account of fever. She is undergoing observation and investigations and her condition is stable," said Dr. D.S. Rana, Chairman of Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, in a statement.

This is the second time the former Congress chief has undergone hospitalisation in a span of three months. This January, Ms. Gandhi was admitted at the same hospital with viral respiratory infection.

SC to hear bail plea of Saket Gokhale after Holi vacation

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday agreed to hear after Holi vacations a plea filed by Trinamool Congress spokesperson Saket Gokhale against Gujarat High Court's refusal to grant him bail in a case concerning alleged misappropriation of money collected through crowdfunding.

A Bench of Justices B.R. Gavai and Vikram Nath listed the case on March 13. "I have always maintained that the money was collected through crowdfunding. This is not a case for denying bail," senior advocate A.M. Singhvi, for Mr. Gokhale, submitted. The court said that it had received the case file late on Thursday night and did not have time to go through it.

Attack on MGNREGS is an undeclared war on rural poor: CPI(M)

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Modi government is waging an undeclared war on the legal and constitutional rights of the rural poor, CPI(M) Polit Bureau member Brinda Karat said, addressing a press conference in solidarity of the MGNREGS workers who have been sitting on a 100-day protest at Jantar Mantar here.

Brinda Karat

Ms. Karat said that the foremost step on their [government's] agenda is to "dismantle many of the laws, which were enacted through decades of struggle." The only reason the government has been unable to completely eliminate the law, she said, is because of the legal mandate it has. She said there are three major areas of concern in the implementation of MGNREGA – recent Budget cut of 33%, turning away workers who demand work and dismal wages offered under the programme.

The government narrative that funds will be made available according to the demand is a lie, Ms. Karat said, and also underlined the need to revise the average national wage rate, which currently is at ₹218.

Supreme Court eases norm for selection of consumer court presidents, members

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday used its extraordinary powers under Article 142 to attract younger talent to preside over consumer courts by reducing the mandatory professional experience from 20 to 10 years.

In a judgment, a Bench of Justices M.R. Shah and M.M. Sundresh also introduced written exams and *viva voce* to check the candidates' performance.

Consumer commissions have the power of civil courts in many aspects.

The judgment noted that the government has proposed several amendments to the Consumer Protection (Qualification for appointment, method of recruitment, procedure of appointment, term of office, resignation and removal of President and Members of State Commission and District Commission) Rules, 2020.

'Filling the vacuum'

However, it did not want to wait for the law. Rather, the court said its judgment would fill the vacuum until the amendments were made in the 2020 Rules.

"We direct that in future and hereinafter, a person having a Bachelor's degree from a recognised university and who is a person of ability, integrity and standing, and having special knowledge and professional experience of not less than 10 years in consumer affairs, law, public affairs, administration, economics, commerce, industry, finance, management, engineering, technology, public health or medicine, shall be treated as qualified for appointment of president and members of the State Commission," the judgment directed.

The appointments to the district consumer commissions would also be made on the same criteria, the judgment noted.

Confusion in opting for higher pension using EPFO link: CITU

A. M. Jigeesh
NEW DELHI

Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) general secretary Tapan Sen has written a letter to Central Provident Fund Commissioner Neelam Shami Rao demanding her immediate intervention to resolve problems in uploading higher pension option application on the EPFO website.

Mr. Sen demanded a comprehensive statement from the EPFO with a holistic approach to implement the Supreme Court judgment on the Employees' Pension Scheme of 1995.

He said that issuing three circulars on the issue was a piece-meal dealing and it led to lot of confusion among pensioners. "There must be a cohesive instruction from the EPFO and more pensioners/employee-friendly hassle-free mechanism to avail the benefits," he said.

Practical problems

The former Rajya Sabha member said pensioners were facing practical problems while opting for higher pension. "The link that was provided by the EPFO to exercise the option online for higher pension benefits was asking whether you had already opted for higher pension benefits while joining in the EPS-95 scheme. When the EPS-95 was started, obviously, no one had opted for higher pension benefits while joining the scheme, since there was no such amenable provision for the employees to independently opt for higher pension," Mr. Sen said.

World Bank to lend $1 billion to support India's health sector

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The World Bank is lending up to $1 billion to help India with preparedness for future pandemics as well as to strengthen its health infrastructure. The lending will be divided into two complementary loans of $500 million each.

Through this combined financing of $1 billion, the bank will support India's flagship Pradhan Mantri-Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM), launched in October 2021, to improve the public healthcare infrastructure across the country.

Better service delivery

In addition to the national-level interventions, one of the loans will prioritise health service delivery in seven States – Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Meghalaya, Odisha, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, and Uttar Pradesh.

The $500-million Public Health Systems for Pandemic Preparedness Programme (PHSPP) will support the government's efforts to prepare India's surveillance system to detect and report epidemics of potential international concern.

Another $500-million Enhanced Health Service Delivery Programme (EHSDP) will support government's efforts to strengthen service delivery through a redesigned primary healthcare model, which includes improved household access to primary healthcare facilities, stronger links between each household and its primary care facility through regular household visits and risk assessment of non-communicable diseases.

Both the PHSPP and the EHSDP loans from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) have a final maturity of 18.5 years, including a grace period of five years, stated the World Bank.

The agreement was signed by Rajat Kumar Mishra, Additional Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance on behalf of the Government of India and Auguste Tano Kouamé, country director, India, World Bank.

India's performance in health has improved over time. According to the World Bank estimates, India's life expectancy has increased from 58 in 1990 to 69.8 in 2020. This is higher than average for the country's income level.

Border issue should be kept 'in proper place', says China

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar highlighted 'abnormal' state of ties and need for peace on the LAC for return to normalcy but Beijing wants to delink that subject from rest of relations

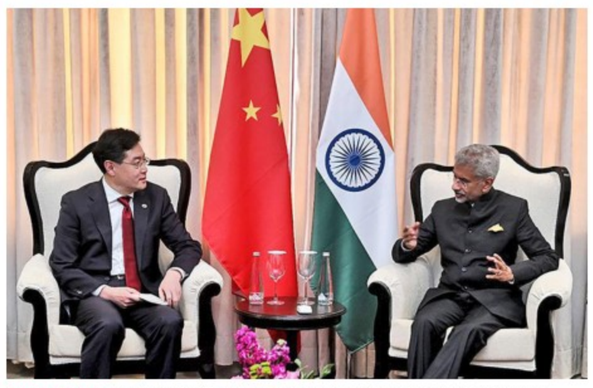
Ananth Krishnan
BEIJING

Visiting Chinese Foreign Minister Qin Gang, in talks with External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, called on India to look at relations "in the context of once-in-a-century changes in the world" and to put the border issue "in the proper place", the Chinese Foreign Ministry said on Friday.

In Thursday's talks in New Delhi, Mr. Jaishankar had flagged the "abnormal" state of ties and reiterated India's position that restoration of peace on the Line of Actual Control (LAC) was required for a return to normalcy.

The Chinese side, meanwhile, has sought to delink the boundary from the rest of ties, even while putting forward what the Indian military has seen as unacceptable demands in the long-running continuing negotiations that have dragged on for close to three years, to complete the disengagement process along the LAC.

Mr. Qin, in what is his first visit to India as Foreign Minister for the G-20 meet, said China "supports the Indian side in fulfilling its chairmanship of the G-20 and is ready to strengthen communication and cooperation to safeguard the common interests of developing countries and international equity and justice, so as to inject stability and positive energy into the world".



Tug of war: External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar with Chinese counterpart Qin Gang in New Delhi on Thursday. AP

"As neighbouring countries and major emerging economies, China and India have far more common interests than differences," he said. "The development and revitalisation of China and India display the strength of developing countries, which will change the future of one-third of the world's population, the future of Asia and even the whole world. The two sides should implement the important consensus of the leaders of the two countries, maintain dialogue and properly resolve disputes, and promote the improvement of bilateral relations and the steady moving forward of the relations."

The boundary, and China's transgressions starting in April 2020, remain a sticking point. Mr. Qin repeated the Chinese stand that "the boundary issue should be put in the proper place in bilateral relations" and that "the situation on the borders should be brought under normalised management as soon as possible."

He added that China was "willing to speed up resumption of exchanges and cooperation with India in various fields, resume direct flights at the earliest date and facilitate people-to-people exchanges".

At a press conference on Thursday, Mr. Jaishankar said he had discussed the "abnormal" current state of relations with Mr. Qin and the "thrust of our talks was on challenges in the bilateral relationship and the peace and tranquillity at the LAC."

The Chinese statement quoted Mr. Jaishankar as "agreeing that bilateral relations should be understood and improved from a historical perspective and strategic height."

Last week, the two sides held their first in-person high-level border talks in more than three years, with Shilpak Ambule, Joint Secretary (East Asia) in the MEA, travelling to Beijing for the 26th meeting of the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on India-China Border Affairs (WMCC).

Foreign Ministers of Quad countries take aim at Russia, China

Suhasini Haidar
Ananth Krishnan
NEW DELHI/BEIJING

> We underscored the need for a just and lasting peace in Ukraine... The use or threat of use of nuclear weapons is inadmissible
>
> **JOINT STATEMENT AFTER QUAD FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING**

India joined other Quad members in calling for a "just and lasting peace in Ukraine", and respect for a rules-based order in the South and East China Seas, in the first such statement by the grouping that is seen to criticise both Russia and China.

The statement, that was released after the Quad Foreign Ministers' meeting hosted by External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar in New Delhi, was met with sharp responses from both Russia and China, who called the Quad grouping disruptive and "exclusionary". The meeting was attended by Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong, Japanese Foreign Minister Yoshimasa Hayashi and U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken.

"We continued to discuss our responses to the conflict in Ukraine and the immense human suffering it is causing, and concurred that the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons is inadmissible," said the joint statement released here after the sixth Quad Foreign Ministers' meeting.

"We underscored the need for a just and lasting peace in Ukraine in accordance with international law, including the UN Charter," the statement added, calling for respect for "sovereignty, territorial integrity, and peaceful resolution of disputes."

The 18-paragraph statement called for greater Quad collaboration in support of the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific, and opposed any "unilateral actions that seek to change the status quo or increase tensions in the area", understood to indicate recent tensions over Taiwan.

"We express serious concern at the militarisation of disputed features, the dangerous use of coast guard vessels and maritime militia, and efforts to disrupt other countries' offshore resource exploitation activities," the statement added, in reference to actions in the South and East China Seas. It also announced that the "Quad Maritime Security Working Group" would meet in Washington later this month.

While the Quad Foreign Ministers' language on China and the Indo-Pacific has been sharp in the past, this is the first time a direct reference to the war in Ukraine has been made in the FMs' statement and comes a day after Russia and China prevented consensus on a statement at the G-20 Foreign Ministers' meeting.

In Beijing, Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning called on the Quad "to do more things that contribute to security and mutual trust between regional countries and that help to maintain regional peace and stability", rather than being "about putting exclusionary blocs".

Ms. Mao said that "leaders of all 20 member countries at the Bali summit made it clear that the G-20 is not a forum to resolve security issues".

RUSSIA WANTS CLOSER TIES FOR INDIA, CHINA: LAVROV
» WORLD PAGE

5 held for fraud using celebrities' PAN

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Using PAN details of celebrities such M.S. Dhoni, Abhishek Bachchan and Madhuri Dixit, five men, who duped a fintech-based start-up in Pune, for procuring credit cards, were arrested by the Delhi police, officials said on Friday.

Police received a complaint filed by the FPL Technologies Private Limited. The accused have been identified as Sunil Kumar (42), Puneet (25), Mohammad Asif (32), Vishwa Bhaskar Sharma (42), and Pankaj Mishra (37).

A senior police officer said that the key conspirator, Vishwa Sharma, worked at a government college in Rajasthan and was the kingpin in the fraud.

The police said that Puneet and Mohammad Asif, who worked at Aadhaar Enrolment Centres, were involved in forging Aadhaar card details.

DCP (Shahdara) Rohit Meena said the *modus operandi* the group followed was that they would obtain the GST details of the celebrities from Google, and they were aware that the first two digits of GSTIN are State codes and the next 10 digits were PAN number," the police officer said.

The company alleged that the fraudsters approached the company through their app by uploading details, such as PAN and Aadhaar number to get credit cards issued.

Self-reliance is key in defence sector: CDS

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) Gen. Anil Chauhan stressed on self-reliance in making defence equipment, while speaking of lessons for India from the war in Ukraine during a panel discussion at the Raisina Dialogue on Friday.

"Every conflict has perspectives – political, economic and diplomatic... We must be self-reliant in weapons production, and not wait for supplies from other nations," Gen. Chauhan said.

Kuno Park unsuitable to host all 20 cheetahs, not enough prey, says scientist

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

The Kuno National Park (KNP) in Madhya Pradesh, which currently hosts 20 cheetahs brought in from Africa, does not have enough prey to sustain all the animals.

While the Rajasthan government had offered to host some animals in the relatively smaller but well-equipped Mukundra Tiger reserve, "political considerations" had prevented this from happening, Yadvendradev Jhala, the wildlife scientist who played a major role in India's cheetah reintroduction programme, told *The Hindu*.

Eight cheetahs from Namibia and 12 from South Africa were transported to India between September 2022 and February 2023 as part of an initiative to reintroduce the species to India, where the cheetah population had gone extinct in the early 1950s.

Dr. Jhala is a former Dean of the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun and among the co-authors of the National Cheetah Action Plan that forms the basis of the cheetah programme.

He had superannuated from the institute but had his tenure extended by two years to ensure the smooth execution of the cheetah reintroduction programme in the country.

Finding a home: A cheetah brought from South Africa is seen in an enclosure at the Kuno National Park in Madhya Pradesh. PTI

"I do believe I have much more to contribute in terms of scientific knowledge and the vision (to ensure sustainable cheetah populations). Maybe the government thinks otherwise," he said.

'Only one third'

As present, there are about 20 chital – the cheetah's main prey – per square kilometre available at the KNP, a sharp decline from the nearly 60 chital per square km that could be found in the park in 2014, Dr. Jhala said.

"This, at the most, would sustain 15 animals, and five ought to have been shifted elsewhere. Unlike the Gangasagar and the Nauradehi wildlife sanctuaries (in Madhya Pradesh), which will take at least a year and investments worth ₹750 crore to be made suitable for the cheetah to stay, Mukundara can immediately accommodate them," Dr. Jhala explained.

"Initially the Rajasthan government was reluctant, but they agreed and wrote to the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) last year conveying their readiness to accept cheetahs. But now the Centre doesn't seem keen. They haven't said 'no', but I think they want to wait. I think there are political considerations here," he observed.

Dr. Jhala said the lack of sufficient prey in KNP was a "concerning" situation.

"I think the government should consider measures such as prey supplementation [by bringing in more animals]. The government has started developing Gandhi Sagar and has transferred funds to Madhya Pradesh for creating a fenced enclosure like in the Kuno National Park," he added.

NIA attaches property of Pak.-based terrorist

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has attached a property belonging to a Pakistan-based listed terrorist, Basit Ahmad Reshi, in Jammu and Kashmir's Baramulla.

According to the NIA, Reshi has been designated as a "terrorist" under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act. He has been funding terror activities in the Kashmir Valley.

Reshi "joined the militant ranks in 2015 and was involved in the planning and execution of a terror attack at a police guard post in Sopore", in which a constable was killed. He was earlier associated with the banned outfit, Hizbul Mujahideen, and later fled to Pakistan, stated the NIA.

He is currently involved in the terror activities of The Resistance Front (TRF), manages and supplies arms and ammunition, as well as funds for the outfit from across the border, said the agency.

The NIA has attached his agriculture land measuring 9.25 marlas under the Act.

Till date, the NIA has attached the assets of five designated terrorists, including U.S.-based Gurpatwant Singh Pannun, Canada-based Hardeep Singh Nijjar and Khalistan Commando Force (Panjwar)'s Paramjit Singh Panjwar.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, P.W.D., CITY-CIRCLE Udaipur
S. No. 491 Date :- 22/2/2023
NIT No. 06/2022-23
Notice Inviting Bid No.
Bids for "Various Road's, Renewal, Strengthening Works in various schemes in District Udaipur (Raj.) are invited from interested bidders upto 6.00 PM, Dated 20.03.2023. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://erpc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in) of the Rajasthan and http://pwd.rajasthan.gov.in website. The approximate value of the procurement is Rs. 393.00 Lacs.

S. No.	UBN NO.
1	PWD2223WSOB16837

Yours faithfully
(Ashok Kumar Sharma)
Superintending Engineer
Public Works Department
City-Circle Udaipur
DIPR/C/3058

WEST BENGAL STATE ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION COMPANY LIMITED
(A Government of West Bengal Enterprise)
WBSETCL
Registered Office: Vidyut Bhavan, Block-DJ, Sector-II, Bidhannagar, Kolkata-700 091
CIN: U40101WB2007SGC113474 • web: www.wbsetcl.in
NIT No.: CE(P)/WBSETCL/PLINS/22-23/27 Date: 04.03.2023
The **Chief Engineer (Procurement)** invites e-Tender for procurement of Polymer Type Long Rod Insulators. Interested bidders may obtain bidding documents by registering themselves on the e-tendering portal (**https://wbtenders.gov.in** or **https://etender.wb.nic.in**). Bid documents can be downloaded from **04.03.2023, 11:00 A.M.** and bids shall be submitted (online) up to **12.00 Noon, 30.03.2023**. Visit the Company's website **www.wbsetcl.in** for details.
ICA-T4499(3)/2023

Government of Rajasthan
Office of Director, Archaeology & Museums Department, Rajasthan Jaipur
(Phone 0141-2820360, Email-dirarchraj@gmail.com)
No.:- A&M/TS(M)/Shops/2023/ Date:-
E-Bid Notice
On behalf of Hon'ble Governor of Rajasthan online bids for setup and run seven (07) shops respectively of wooden artifacts, metal artifacts, jewellery, lather, stone, Miniature Painting / Terracotta art and blue pottery on the way to exit gate at Amber Fort, Amber, Jaipur are here by invited from interestd and eligible company / Firms / Individuals / Joint Venture. Details of the bid are as under:-

Particular	Period of Bid Documents downloading	Period of Bid Documents uploading	Date & time of opening of Technical Bid
Setup and run seven (07) shops of wooden artifacts, metal artifacts, Jewellery, Lather, stone, miniature painting / terracotta art and blue pottery on the way to exit gate at Amber Fort, Amber, Jaipur.	Date 28-02-2023, 10-00 A.M. to Date 20-03-2023 up to 5.00 PM	Date 28-02-2023, 10-00 A.M. to Date 20-03-2023 up to 5.00 PM	Date 21-03-2023 on 11.00 AM

1. Bid UBN No. AMD2223SLOB00131
2. Bid UBN No. AMD2223SLOB00132
3. Bid UBN No. AMD2223SLOB00133
4. Bid UBN No. AMD2223SLOB00134
5. Bid UBN No. AMD2223SLOB00135
6. Bid UBN No. AMD2223SLOB00136
7. Bid UBN No. AMD2223SLOB00137

Detailed bid document can be viewed or / and download from websites http://museumsrajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in & http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in.
DIPR/C/3092 DIRECTOR

ANDHRA PRADESH STATE CIVIL SUPPLIES CORPORATION LIMITED
Head Office: 10-152/1, Ashoknagar, Bandar Road, Vijayawada – 520007.
TENDER NOTICE (2nd call)
Lr.No.Proc./1/Paddy Procurement/2022-23 Date: 03.03.2023
EMPANELMENT OF DISTRICT WISE CONTRACTORS FOR TRANSPORTATION OF CUSTOM MILLED RICE FROM RICE MILLS TO BUFFER GODOWNS/FCI GODOWNS FOR KMS 2022-23 AND 2023-2024.
APSCSCL invites District/Districts wise online tenders to appoint CMR transport contractors in District/districts of Andhra Pradesh for transportation of Custom Milled Rice from the designated Rice Mills to Buffer/FCI godowns for the years KMS 2022-23 and KMS 2023-24 through NeML Platform.
Interested Tenderers may visit website www.apscscl.in and also www.neml.in to view and download tender documents, free of cost.
Those who are interested to participate in tender should be registered with NCDEX e-Markets Ltd. on their website www.neml.in and can contact the Customer Service Group on phone numbers (+91-22) – 48810500/ 9962059599 or Email: askus@neml.in
Last date for online registration and completion of formalities for submitting the online tenders shall be up to **14.03.2023**by **5.00PM** and the tentative date of online e-reverse auction through NeML platform would be on **16.03.2023 at-11.00 AM onwards**.
(G. VEERAPANDIAN)
VC & MANAGING DIRECTOR

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Kengeri Division,
R.R. Nagara Zone, No.144, 2nd main,
Jagajyothi Layout, Bengaluru - 560 056.
No: EE/KEN/TEND/17/2022-23 Date: 02.03.2023
INVITATION FOR TENDER NOTIFICATION (IFT)
(Through **GOK e-Procurement Portal** only)
The Executive Engineer, Kengeri Division, BBMP, Bengaluru invites tenders from eligible Tenderers for the Construction of works detailed in the table below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Works	Approx. Value of Work (₹. in Lakhs)	EMD (₹. in Lakhs)
Two Cover System - Call 1			
1	Comprehensive Development Works in KHB Colony and Surrounding Areas in Ward No-159	1000.00	15.00 (1.00 Lakh Online & remaining Balance BG / FDR)

Calendar of Events : (1) Tender documents can be downloaded in the e-procurement portal GOK from **06.03.2023**, **4:00**pm. (2) Tenders must be submitted online through e-procurement portal on or before **16.03.2023** upto **4:00** pm. (3) Pre bid meeting will be held on **13.03.2023** at **3:00** pm in the Office of the Chief Engineer, Ideal Homes Rajarjeswari Nagar Zone Bamgalore-98. (4) Last date & Time for Receipt of Tenders on **16.03.2023** upto **4:00** pm. (5) Bids will be opened on **17.03.2023** at **4:00** pm in the office of the Executive Engineer, Kengeri Division. Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours on working days or from website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** **Sd/-**
Executive Engineer - Kengeri Division

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD
Office of the Chief Engineer (Project)
3rd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560009
No: BWSSB/CE(P)/ACE(Cstr&DCW)/TA-2/1494/2022-23 Dt: 02.03.2023
INVITATION FOR TENDER
(Only through e-procurement portal only)
BWSSB invites Tender in Two Stage Tender System from Reputed Manufacturers for Procurement of 35,000 nos of 15mm dia Multi Jet Class "B" Magnetic Type Water Meters Conforming to IS:779/1994 & ISO:4064/2014 with MID Certificate its Latest amendments.
Amount Put to Tender: ₹ 4,95,60,000/- EMD : ₹ 7,43,400/-
Last date and time for Receipt of tenders is on **18.03.2023** before **16:00** hours. The Technical Bids will be opened on **20.03.2023** at **12:00** noon. The details regarding the tender and participation in the e-procurement portal process can be obtained by logging on to **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.** For further details contact the undersigned office during working hours.
Sd/-
Chief Engineer (Project)
DIPR/5071/2022-23

INBRIEF

SC extends Pawan Khera's interim bail till March 17

The Supreme Court on Friday extended the interim bail granted to Congress spokesperson Pawan Khera till March 17, even as Uttar Pradesh and Assam objected to the clubbing and transfer of FIRs registered against him for allegedly using objectionable words against Prime Minister Narendra Modi during a press conference in February. The Uttar Pradesh government told a Bench, led by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud, that Mr. Khera's utterances were a "deliberate attempt to denigrate a constitutional functionary". It said the plea to transfer the cases were an attempt to "stall investigations".

Excise scam: Manish Sisodia moves Delhi court for bail

Arrested AAP leader Manish Sisodia has filed a bail application in Rouse Avenue Court in Delhi, according to party sources. Mr. Sisodia was arrested by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Sunday in connection with the allegation of irregularities in the formulation and implementation of the now-scrapped 2021-22 excise policy case. Mr. Sisodia resigned from the Delhi cabinet on Tuesday. He had been in-charge of over 18 departments, including education, health, and finance. The AAP announced Mr. Sisodia's resignation just over an hour after the Supreme Court refused to intervene in a petition challenging his arrest.

NIA attaches ₹20.65 crore in Left Wing Extremism case

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has attached about ₹20.65 crore, including the balance in more than 150 bank accounts, in connection with a Left-Wing Extremism (LWE) case. According to the agency, the accounts include 124 special term deposits and one mutual fund belonging to Santosh Construction and its different partners. The action has been taken under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act. While probing the role of Mrityunjay Kumar Singh, one of the partners in Santosh Construction, the NIA found that he allegedly had close links with top CPI (Maoist) cadre and had provided cash to one Ravindra Ganjhu.

Law Ministry notifies appointment of HC judges

The Law Ministry on Friday notified the elevation of 20 additional judges as permanent judges of the Allahabad, Bombay, Madras and Delhi High Courts. In separate notifications, the Department of Justice in the Law Ministry said that while five additional judges have been made judges of the Madras High Court, four others from the Bombay High Court have been elevated. Similarly, 10 additional judges in the Allahabad High Court and one from the Delhi High Court have been elevated as judges in their respective High Courts, the Ministry said. Additional judges are usually appointed for a period of two years before being elevated.

U.S. blames Indian firm for cough syrup deaths in Gambia

Inquiry suggests contaminated medicines imported into Gambia led to this Acute Kidney Injury cluster among children, CDC report says

Maitri Porecha
NEW DELHI

An investigation report by the top public health body of the U.S., Centre for Disease Control, into the death of children in Gambia due to kidney injury, has suggested a strong link between these deaths and consumption of allegedly contaminated cough syrup manufactured by India-based Maiden Pharmaceuticals.

A CDC report released on Friday said, "This investigation strongly suggests that medications contaminated with Diethylene Glycol [DEG] or Ethylene Glycol [EG] imported into The Gambia led to this Acute Kidney Injury (AKI) cluster among children."

The CDC report is the third such evidence to link cough syrups manufactured in India to the deaths. Earlier, the World Health Organization had stated that it had found DEG and EG, two industrial chemicals, in tested samples in the range of 1% to 21.3%. Before this, an investigation by the Gambian Parliament had said Maiden Pharma 'should be held accountable'.

Big impact: The children observed by CDC had developed fever, vomiting, diarrhoea, loss of appetite and inability to pass urine.

India's claim

The Indian government, however, maintains that when it collected control samples from the pharma company of the same batch that was exported to Gambia and found no contamination. "We had also requested that a team of Indian officials go to Gambia to investigate the case but we have been disallowed by Gambia from conducting the probe," a senior Health Ministry official told *The Hindu*.

The Indian Health Ministry has not issued any official response to the U.S.-CDC report. Health officials have claimed it to be 'a political ploy'.

Between July and Septmber last year, the Gambian Ministry of Health had identified that 78 children developed sudden kidney failure and up to 66 (85%) of them died. Gambia had requested help from CDC experts to help investigate the situation.

Up to 56 patients met the criteria for investigation and were included in the CDC analysis.

Uzbekistan cough syrup deaths: Noida firm staff held

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Noida police arrested three employees of a pharmaceutical firm on charges of manufacturing and selling adulterated drugs in connection with the death of 18 children in Uzbekistan last year, officials said on Friday.

Police said the cough syrup was alleged to have led to the death of 18 children in Uzbekistan.

A First Information Report was registered on Thursday against five officials of Marion Biotech, after a complaint was filed by a Drugs Inspector of the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO), the police said. "While the directors are absconding, teams have been formed to apprehend them," the police said.

Central and Uttar Pradesh drug authorities had checked samples of Marion Biotech products and found 22 of them to be "not of standard quality" (adulterated and spurious), as per the complainant Drug Inspector.

Additional Deputy Commissioner (Central Noida) Rajiv Dixit said three persons associated with Marion Biotech were arrested on Friday. These people were engaged in preparation and sale of fake drugs.

Better infra has put remote villages on tourist map: Modi

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Narendra Modi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said better infrastructure has put remote Indian villages on the tourist map as has redevelopment of religious centers like Varanasi's Kashi Vishwanath Temple.

Addressing a post-Budget webinar on the subject of 'Developing Tourism in Mission Mode', Mr. Modi said it was a myth that tourism is a fancy word associated only with the high-income groups of the country.

He noted that *yatras* have been a part of India's cultural and social life for centuries and people used to go on pilgrimages even when there was no resource available.

Mr. Modi gave the example of Kashi Vishwanath Dham in Varanasi and said around 80 lakh people used to visit the temple in a year before it was rebuilt, but the tourist footfall crossed seven crore last year after the renovation. He also mentioned that 15 lakh devotees have visited Kedarnath Temple compared to only four-five lakh before the completion of the reconstruction work.

The Prime Minister underlined that India's tourism sector can grow manifold with increase in civic amenities, good digital connectivity, good hotels and hospitals and excellent infrastructure. He gave the example of Indian villages.

"Our villages are becoming centres of tourism", the Prime Minister remarked as he underlined that remote villages are now coming up on the tourism map due to their improving infrastructure.

The Centre has started the Vibrant Village Scheme for the villages situated along the border, he said emphasising the need to support businesses such as homestays, small hotels and restaurants.

He said India needs to think out of the box and plan ahead to take tourism to new heights. As parameters for the development of a tourist destination, he listed the potential of the place, ease of travelling to the destination and new ways to promote it.

India scores 74.4 in World Bank index on working women

Sreeparna Chakrabarty
NEW DELHI

The laws affecting the Indian working woman's pay and pension do not provide for equality with Indian men, dragging India's score in a World Bank index on the life cycle of a working woman down to 74.4 out of a possible 100.

A score of 100 on the Index means that women are on an equal standing with men on all the eight indicators being measured, according to the World Bank's Women, Business and the Law 2023 report. India scored higher than the 63.7 average for the South Asian region, though lower than Nepal which had the region's highest score of 80.6. Of the 190 economies covered in the Index, only 14 scored a perfect 100: Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Luxemburg, The Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and Sweden.

For India, the Index used data on laws applicable in Mumbai, viewed as the country's main business city.

"When it comes to constraints on freedom of movement, laws affecting women's decisions to work, and constraints related to marriage, India gets a perfect score," the report said.

However, India lags behind when it comes to laws affecting women's pay, pension and work after having children, constraints on women starting and running a business, gender differences in property and inheritance.

Holi brings on a barrage of double entendre songs to Bihar's festivities

Amit Bhelari
PATNA

In preparation for Holi this year, Bihar's Bhojpuri music scene is once again rife with sexual innuendo. The festival lends itself to songs with double entendre, because of the symbols popular at this time: water pistols, balloons, and horns with rubber air bladders (*bhopu*).

The transition from folksy family songs that documented seasons, relationships, and festivals, to raunchy music with double meaning has taken place over the past couple of decades. Particularly popular at Holi, up to 100 songs are released for the festival. They are often played in spaces like private buses that ply in mofussil areas or at local melas (fairs).

Perhaps not anymore.

In demand: A shopkeeper in Bakarganj says there are several reasons these songs are popular. AFP

Congress MLA Pratima Kumari raised the issue of Bhojpuri music's vulgarity in the Bihar Assembly this week. In reply, the State Planning and Development Minister Bijendra Prasad Yadav said that action would be taken against those making and playing songs with a double meaning and obscene videos.

"The special branch of Bihar police has already issued instructions to district police units to file a complaint in this regard," Mr. Yadav said in the Assembly on Wednesday.

"The Bhojpuri music industry – that includes both film music and independent albums – is worth about ₹2,000 crore," says Ranjan Sinha, who handles the launch of most Bhojpuri songs. "Annually, about 1,000 to 1,300 songs are released, and of these 20-30% are vulgar. The trend reached its peak in 2017," he says, adding that the singers are between the ages of 25 and 35, with listeners being even younger.

In Patna's Bakarganj, there are more than a 100 shops that people can visit to download songs. They carry along pen drives or memory cards and pay ₹30 to ₹50 for 1 GB of worth of songs. A shopkeeper in the area said there are several reasons these songs are popular.

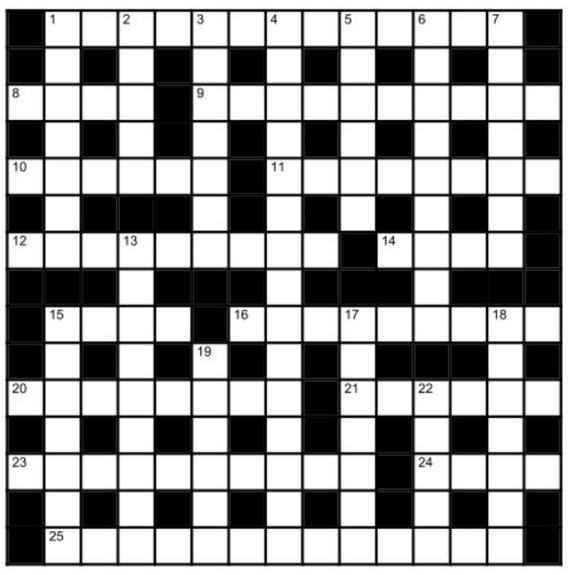
Bhojpuri singer and actor Khesari Lal Yadav said he had stopped making songs with double meaning when he got trolled on social media. "I would like to change the perception of Bhojpuri films and songs and make them more family oriented," he added.

TH CROSSWORD + 13804

(set by WrdPlougher)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Every writer ridiculed, debarred, essentially upright (13)
8 Advance in leaps, bounds, giant prances, each a step further than the last (4)
9 Friend of Eric bored by cricket match daily (10)
10 Oddly, Goan first to taste French water and cake (6)
11 Alarm initially rung out in city signalling an earthquake, say (8)
12 Grant nod principally for UN's first debt instrument (9)
14 Play the lead in & as Tarzan (4)
15 Neat coloured fabric, ends trimmed (4)
16 Magnify complete audiovisual for (for example)... (9)
20 ... slide show, Powerpoint - your last two choices, in-depth and new (8)
21 Energy firm second to secure U.S. guarantee for powerful contractor? (6)
23 Treated ulcer vomit using Archimedes' method? (10)
24 What a groom might say, essentially beholding model (4)
25 Finger-snapper? (7,6)

Down

1 Dull photograph of American civil rights activist (7)
2 Constitutional ambit (5)
3 Fair peacekeeper Democrat's voice (7)
4 Leader in performance, etc., or ringleader (8-7)
5 Heading to Champions' Trophy's final with two ducks and two fifties, like former India captain might? (6)
6 Recurring theme in meandering movie Tilt (9)
7 Priest going around a chamber, generating energy? (7)
13 Letters from golden burgeoning German city (9)
15 Fool briefly mentioned by Spooner twice (7)
17 A Jewish girl talking about Rabbi essentially replacing head of religious centre (7)
18 Vegetable starch 'generally' hated by Tintin's friend Alcazar (7)
19 Clear browser within 40 days before Easter (6)
22 Upright Arab ruler first to condemn wrongdoing (5)

SUDOKU

					2		4	
				3		7	6	
2	5	1				8		
3					7			6
	9		5		3		1	
8			4					7
		8				6	5	3
	7	9		5				
	3		2					

No.SS5727 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

Solution to previous puzzle

C	A	S	H	C	A	R	D		T	H	E	O	R	Y
	D		E		M		E		E		R		O	
C	A	T	N	A	P		C	I	N	N	A	M	O	N
	M		R		L		I		O		D		K	
B	A	B	Y	M	I	N	D	E	R		I	S	I	S
	N				F		E				C		E	
S	T	E	A	M	I	E	R		H	O	A	R	S	E
			D		E				U		T			
T	E	N	D	E	R		L	A	N	C	E	L	O	T
	X		I				E		C				B	
E	P	I	C		A	N	T	I	H	E	R	O	E	S
	O		T		D		D		B		I		S	
O	S	T	I	N	A	T	O		A	N	G	U	I	S
	E		O		G		W		C		I		T	
F	R	I	N	G	E		N	A	K	E	D	E	Y	E

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

9	3	4	5	6	8	7	2	1
6	5	8	2	1	7	3	4	9
1	7	2	3	4	9	8	5	6
5	1	6	7	8	4	9	3	2
2	8	9	1	5	3	4	6	7
7	4	3	6	9	2	5	1	8
3	6	1	9	7	5	2	8	4
8	9	5	4	2	1	6	7	3
4	2	7	8	3	6	1	9	5

FAITH

Magnanimity of Lord Siva

By offering perishable things like flowers and fruits, we can derive everlasting and imperishable bliss from God, says Appayya Dhikshitar. Saint Thyagaraja praises Lord Siva whether there can be anyone like you? For an infinitesimal devotion he gives great things like health, wealth and peace. Not contended, He thinks what else can be given?It is said that people need not worry about not knowing the procedures of performing poojas. They can do according to their little knowledge and what is known to them. All that is needed is a strong wish soaked in devotion. He makes Himself so simple and accepts whatever offered. The deep devotion of Kannappa Nayanar is a good example to us. It is said that Lord Siva does not disturb people to fetch and offer Him high fragrant flowers. He is happy with the Arka (*Erukkan*) leaves and flowers, the flower Leukus Aspera (*Thumbai*) and the Bael (*vilvam)* leaf. (*Eka Bilvam Sivarpanam*).

Sri Adi Sankara says in Soundarya Lahari that we can do all works if only we have the inherent energy which is bestowed to us by Goddess Shakthi. She is the source of energy to Lord Siva. Appayya Dhikshitar says that with the faculties given by Him, if we don't worship, we become self-tormentors.

The term Siva refers to auspiciousness and calmness. We can derive His blessings not even straining by uttering five letters (*Sivaya namaha*) but just by chanting two letters (Siva), said Smt. Krithika Bharadwaj in a discourse. He gives knowledge to those who respect Him and also to those who are indifferent – *Madhiyarkum, Madhipavarkum Madhi kodukkum Madhiye,* says Vallalar.

WALTERBORO

Lawyer Alex Murdaugh gets life in prison for murder of wife, son

AP

A judge sentenced South Carolina attorney Alex Murdaugh to life without parole on Friday, a day after he was convicted of murder in the shooting deaths of his wife and son. The Colleton County jury deliberated on Thursday before finding Murdaugh guilty of killing his 22-year-old son and his 52-year-old wife on June 7, 2021.

SEOUL

U.S., South Korea announce largest joint field exercises in five years

REUTERS

The South Korean and U.S. militaries announced on Friday they will hold their biggest joint field exercises in five years later this month, as the U.S. flew a long-range B-1B bomber to the Korean Peninsula in a show of force against North Korea. The North has threatened to take "unprecedently" strong action against such exercises. AP

BANGKOK

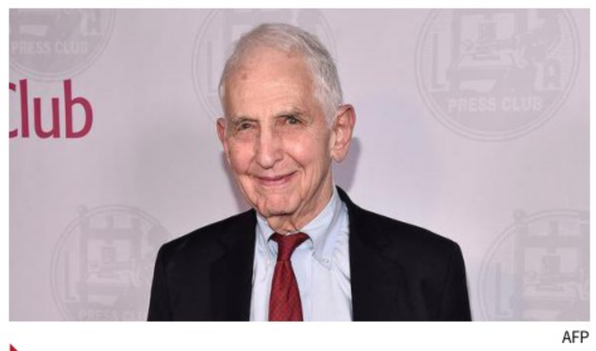
Singapore PM's brother says govt. persecuting his family

AFP

Lee Hsien Yang. the brother of Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, on Friday accused government authorities of persecuting his family after it emerged that he and his wife were under official investigation. Officials say the two were being investigated over allegations of providing false evidence in judicial proceedings. AP

WASHINGTON

Pentagon Papers leaker Ellsberg says he has terminal cancer



AFP

Daniel Ellsberg, who copied and leaked documents that revealed secret details of U.S. strategy in the Vietnam War and became known as the Pentagon Papers, said he has terminal cancer and months to live. Mr. Ellsberg said he has opted not to undergo chemotherapy and plans to accept hospice care when needed. AP

Russia is trying to be helpful to bring India, China closer: Lavrov

We never make friends against somebody. We have excellent relation with India and excellent relation with China, says Foreign Minister

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

Up close: Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov speaking at the Raisina Dialogue 2023 in New Delhi on Friday. ANI

Russia is interested in ensuring friendship between India and China and Moscow is trying to be "helpful" in this regard, said Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov here on Thursday. Responding to a question at the annual Raisina Dialogue, Mr. Lavrov cautioned against 'outside players' and said Russia would like India and China to meet more often as the Russia-India-China trilateral has been in existence since the days of his predecessor, Yevgeny Primakov.

"We never make friends against somebody. We have excellent relation with India and excellent relation with China. The India-Russia relation is characterised in official documents signed by two leaders as specially privileged strategic partnership. This is what we believe is reflecting the reality. We are interested in these two great nations to be friends and we are trying to be helpful," said Mr. Lavrov.

The Russian Minister recollected that the RIC – Russia, India, China – trilateral was created during the tenure of the late Yevgeny Primakov when Russia took the initiative to bring the three sides together.

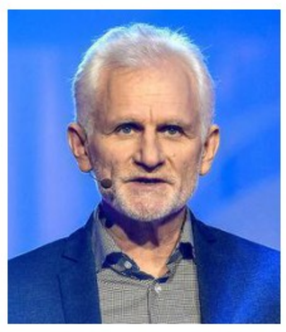
"We met last year and we are going to meet (again) at ministerial level this year," said Mr. Lavrov. The RIC is a regular trilateral that meets at the government and non-government levels, covering experts in trade, technology, civil society and media.

"My feeling is the more they meet, the better and RIC is a platform for India and China in our presence – because they might not feel themselves comfortable being one on one all the time – to find some additional common ground. BRICS is another platform and we strongly supported India joining the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, including from the point of view of providing another place where India and China can cooperate together and can look for common solutions. We will continue this policy," said Mr. Lavrov.

"We never engage in playing any country against any other country," he added.

Nobel Peace Prize winner Bialiatski jailed for 10 years

Reuters
MOSCOW



Ales Bialiatski

A court in Belarus on Friday sentenced Nobel Peace Prize winner and human rights activist Ales Bialiatski to 10 years in prison for financing protests and other crimes, in a case that rights groups say was politically motivated.

Exiled Belarusian Opposition leader Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya said Bialiatski and other activists sentenced in the same trial had been unfairly convicted, calling the verdict "appalling".

Prosecutors had asked the Minsk court to give Bialiatski, who denied the charges, a 12-year sentence.

He and three co-defendants were charged with financing protests and smuggling money.

Belarusian state news agency *Belta* confirmed the sentences, including a decade in jail for Bialiatski.

Aged 60, Bialiatski is a co-founder of the Viasna human rights group and one of the most prominent of hundreds of Belarusians who were jailed during a crackdown on months of anti-government protests that erupted in the summer of 2020 and continued into 2021.

Viasna took a leading role in providing legal and financial assistance to those jailed. Mass demonstrations took place after long-time leader Alexander Lukashenko was declared the winner of the 2020 presidential election.

"The allegations against our colleagues are linked to their human rights activity, the Viasna human rights centre's provision of help to the victims of politically motivated persecution," Viasna has said of the case.

Bialiatski was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize last October for his work on human rights and democracy, sharing it with Russian rights group Memorial and Ukraine's Center for Civil Liberties.

Don't withhold poll funds, Lanka SC tells authorities

Meera Srinivasan
COLOMBO

Ranjith Madduma Bandara

The Supreme Court of Sri Lanka on Friday issued an interim order restraining authorities from withholding funds allocated for the local government election, which was earlier scheduled for March 9, but postponed.

The order, preventing state functionaries, including the Secretary to the Finance Ministry and the Attorney General, from withholding funds, was issued after the top court heard a petition filed by the main Opposition party Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB or United People's Force) general secretary and legislator Ranjith Madduma Bandara.

The Election commission, which had postponed the elections citing the "lack of funds", on Friday said it would announce a new date by early next week.

Commenting on the development, Leader of Opposition Sajith Premadasa said in a tweet: "The historic order of the Supreme Court today on an application made by the SJB General Secretary confirms the fact that democracy in Sri Lanka is very much alive & the independence of our noble judiciary is further reaffirmed. Mr. President, let the voices of the masses be heard."

The opposition Tamil National Alliance's legislator and senior lawyer M.S. Sumanthiran said: The Supreme Court delivers an interim order restraining the Min of Finance @RW_UNP et al from withholding funds to conduct LG Elections in the case filed by @sjbsrilanka Gen Sec @MaddumaBandaraR a little while ago. Hope the #EC fixes the date before legally mandated 19th March!"

Opposition protest

The development comes amid resistance from the political opposition to the postponement of polls. Government critics accuse President Ranil Wickremesinghe's administration of stifling democracy. One member of the opposition National People's Power alliance died after police fired tear gas and water cannons at a protest rally by its supporters last weekend, demanding timely polls.

President Wickremesinghe's government also faces mounting opposition over recent tax hikes and three-fold increase in electricity prices. Nearly 40 unions went on a strike on Wednesday, threatening to continue their protests if the government does not address their economic hardships.

The government increased taxes and utility bills in anticipation of a likely $2.9 billion package from the International Monetary Fund (IMF). On Thursday, Peter Breuer, Senior Mission Chief for Sri Lanka, and Masahiro Nozaki, Mission Chief for Sri Lanka, IMF, defended the government's move noting that Sri Lanka is among countries collecting the least amount of fiscal revenue in the world.

"External creditors are not willing to provide financing to fill this gap. Tax reforms are needed to correct this imbalance," the official said in a statement.

Biden, Scholz to weigh next steps for Ukraine

Agence France-Presse
BERLIN

U.S. President Joe Biden hosts German Chancellor Olaf Scholz in Washington on Friday for talks on charting the way ahead in their support for Ukraine, after friction over tank deliveries to Kyiv.

Mr. Scholz's first trip to Washington since February 2022 offers the leaders the opportunity to demonstrate their resolve in backing Ukraine against Russia.

The talks might delve into thorny issues, including Germany's fears over green subsidies by the U.S.

But the talks will likely delve into thorny issues dividing the two, including Germany's fears over Washington's green subsidies under the Inflation Reduction Act, and U.S. caution over Berlin's continued strong economic ties with Beijing. "I think the two of them are now more concerned about the way ahead – what will the next months in Ukraine look like? What does that mean for the support that the allies can organise for Ukraine?" said Mr. Scholz's spokesperson.

In an address to Parliament on the eve of the meeting, Mr. Scholz said the partnership between two of Ukraine's biggest backers was "closer and more trusting than ever".

Inferno unleashed

Sight of a lifetime: The 'Wall of Fire' pyrotechnics display concludes the first public day of the Australian International Airshow Aerospace and Defence Expo at Avalon Airport in Geelong on Friday. AFP

Wagner chief says Ukraine's Bakhmut 'practically surrounded'

Agence France-Presse
KYIV

The head of Russian mercenary group Wagner said on Friday the group had "practically encircled" Bakhmut, an industrial city in eastern Ukraine that has seen the fiercest fighting of Moscow's invasion.

The Kremlin meanwhile warned the West against providing more arms to Ukraine, as key Kyiv backers President Joe Biden and German Chancellor Olaf Scholz were set to meet in Washington.

Ukraine has said it will defend "fortress Bakhmut" for as long as possible but this week officials said the situation was becoming increasingly difficult.

Russia is determined to seize Bakhmut – a now-destroyed city once known for its sparkling wine – as part of its wider aim of capturing the entire Donetsk region.

Ukrainian troops have held out for months, fighting brutal trench warfare and artillery battles that have flattened large portions of the city, where only around 4,500 civilians remain. Mr. Zelensky said that the fighting was "only increasing."

WHO urges countries to come clean on COVID origins intel after China's denial

Agence France-Presse
GENEVA

The WHO on Friday urged all countries to reveal what they know about the origins of COVID-19, following U.S. claims of a Chinese lab leak and furious denials from Beijing.

FBI director Christopher Wray told *Fox News television* on Tuesday that the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) had now assessed the source of COVID-19 pandemic was "most likely a potential lab incident in Wuhan".

The first infections with the new coronavirus were recorded in late 2019 in the Chinese city, which hosts a virus research laboratory.

Chinese officials have angrily denied the FBI claim, calling it a smear campaign against Beijing.

"If any country has information about the origins of the pandemic, it's essential for that information to be shared with WHO and the international scientific community," said the World Health Organization's director-general Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.

"WHO has not abandoned any plans to identify the origins of the COVID-19 pandemic," he told reporters.

origins research was making the scientific work harder -- and the world less safe as a result.

The comments from FBI chief Wray came after a report earlier this week said the U.S. Department of Energy had determined that a Chinese lab leak was the most likely cause of the COVID-19 outbreak.

China accuses U.S. of attacking companies after export curbs

Associated Press
BEIJING

China accused Washington on Friday of improperly attacking Chinese companies after genetics analysis giant BGI Group and 17 others were hit with curbs on access to U.S. technology on security or human rights grounds.

The Commerce Department said it saw a danger that two BGI units might contribute to the government's surveillance apparatus, which human rights groups say is trying to create a database of genetic samples that Muslims and other minorities were compelled to provide.

'Suspected abuse'

Other companies were cited for their role in the ruling Communist Party's military modernisation or weapons development by Iran and Pakistan and suspected human rights abuses in Myanmar. Washington has accused China of trying to use civilian companies to obtain processor chip and other technologies that can be used to make weapons. Beijing retorts that the U.S. is trying to stop potential commercial competitors.

INBRIEF

Mahindra Finance unveils loan for used car purchases

Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services Ltd., in association with Car&Bike and Rupyy, has unveiled 'Used Car Digi Loans' to provide customised loans for buying used cars. "The integrated system will be able to seamlessly initiate the loan application procedure with Mahindra Finance thus making the process quick and convenient for the customer," the firm said.

Soverign Gold Bond issue price fixed at ₹5,611 per gram

The issue price for the next tranche of Sovereign Gold Bond Scheme 2022-23, which will open for subscription for five days from Monday, has been fixed at ₹5,611 per gram of gold, the RBI said on Friday. Government of India, in consultation with RBI, has decided to offer a discount of ₹50 per gram less than the nominal value to those investors applying online and the payment against the application is made through digital mode. "For such investors, the issue price will be ₹5,561 per gram of gold," the RBI said. PTI

'Sugar diverted for ethanol increases to 28.5 lakh tonnes'

Sugar diverted for ethanol production between October 2022 and February 2023 is higher at 28.5 lakh tonnes compared with 21.9 lakh tonnes between October 2021 and February 2022, according to an ISMA update. According to the update issued by the Indian Sugar Mills' Association on Friday, as many as 528 sugar mills produced 257.6 lakh tonnes of sugar between October and February this season as against 253 lakh tonnes during the corresponding period last season, after diverting sugar for ethanol.

Services activity hit 12-year high in February, PMI signals

Favourable demand conditions, new business gains support momentum in sector, S&P Global's survey of services firms shows; Index rises to 59.4 marking the 19th straight monthly expansion

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

India's services sector expanded at the strongest rate in 12 years in February supported by favourable demand conditions and new business gains, a monthly survey showed on Friday.

The seasonally adjusted S&P Global India Services PMI Business Activity Index rose to 59.4 in February, from 57.2 in January.

For the 19th month in a row, the reading was above 50, denoting expansion.

Strong showing

Activity in the economy's crucial services sector expanded at the fastest rate in 12 years as per the S&P Global India Services PMI Business Activity Index.

- Demand resilience, competitive pricing underpinned
- joint-best upturn in sales over the period: S&P Global Market Intelligence's Pollyanna De Lima
- Input prices rise at slowest pace in two-and-a-half years, output charge inflation softens
- Optimism ebbs to lowest in seven months

"The service sector more than regained the growth momentum lost in January, posting the sharpest expansion... for 12 years as demand resilience and competitive pricing policies underpinned the joint-best upturn in sales," said Pollyanna De Lima, Economics Associate Director at S&P Global Market Intelligence.

On the prices front, there was substantial moderation in cost pressures as input prices increased at the slowest pace in almost two-and-a-half years and output charge inflation softened to a 12-month low.

The degree of optimism recorded in February was the lowest for seven months as some firms doubted demand would remain this resilient.

GQG's Adani investment lifts market sentiment, SBI leads Sensex 1.5% higher

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Equity benchmarks surged more than 1.5% on Friday in the wake of U.S.-based GQG Partners investing almost $1.9 billion in four Adani Group firms and aided by 'strong' buying by foreign funds, analysts said.

The S&P BSE Sensex rose 899.62 points, or 1.53%, to 59,808.97. State Bank of India led gains, surging 5.11%, with Bharti Airtel (3.3%), Reliance (2.46%), ITC (2.42%) and Tata Steel (2.2%) also rallying. The NSE Nifty-50 index added 1.57% to close at 17,594.35. The top Nifty-50 gainers included Adani Enterprises (16.6%) and Adani Power (9.76%).

"PSU banks led the sectoral rally as reports of foreign investment in Adani stocks helped the sector in recouping sentiment," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services.

"After the near $2 billion investment by GQG Partners in Adani Group, the stock market has heaved a sigh of relief, creating a kind of floor for Adani group stocks," said Naveen Kulkarni, Chief Investment Officer, Axis Securities.

The investment in Adani should support the banks, especially PSU banks, which were hammered earlier, despite good performance due to fear of their exposure to the Adani Group, he added.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	FRIDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	59,809	1.53
US Dollar	82.00	0.60
Gold	55,940	0.43
Brent oil	85.27	0.81

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	1879.50	272.25
Adani Ports	684.65	61.75
Apollo Hosp	4408.30	6.10
Asian Paints	2828.85	-5.05
Axis Bank	852.65	7.20
Bajaj Auto	3732.00	16.75
Bajaj Finserv	1355.35	11.80
Bajaj Finance	6100.05	17.05
Bharti Airtel	764.40	24.30
BPCL	321.40	0.35
Britannia Ind	4411.95	17.75
Cipla	878.65	-7.80
Coal India	222.95	0.10
Divis Lab	2850.40	-10.75
Dr Reddys Lab	4437.95	47.35
Eicher Motors	3127.30	1.80
Grasim Ind	1596.25	-2.25
HCL Tech	1119.00	13.05
HDFC	2646.10	43.00
HDFC Bank	1615.90	31.45
HDFC Life	489.95	7.15
Hero MotoCorp	2461.55	-1.80
Hindalco	416.90	6.10
Hind Unilever	2471.00	15.65
ICICI Bank	868.55	14.55
IndusInd Bank	1126.40	24.35
Infosys	1479.30	7.15
ITC	384.95	9.40
JSW Steel	682.30	7.20
Kotak Bank	1751.00	29.30
L&T	2152.05	30.45
M&M	1268.60	17.05
Maruti Suzuki	8601.25	52.50
NestleIndia	18449.90	-31.85
NTPC	172.60	1.80
ONGC	154.25	0.20
PowerGrid Corp	222.10	1.75
Reliance Ind	2385.40	59.35
SBI Life	1129.25	29.10
State Bank	561.20	27.45
Sun Pharma	966.90	1.60
TataConsumerProduct	709.85	2.50
Tata Motors	428.00	7.55
Tata Steel	107.00	2.35
TCS	3342.15	20.70
Tech Mahindra	1085.15	-24.65
Titan	2396.10	37.15
UltraTech Cement	7215.95	-73.25
UPL	710.00	4.10
Wipro	390.45	2.40

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on March 03

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	81.77	82.09
Euro	86.71	87.05
British Pound	97.95	98.34
Japanese Yen (100)	60.01	60.26
Chinese Yuan	11.84	11.89
Swiss Franc	87.10	87.48
Singapore Dollar	60.71	60.96
Canadian Dollar	60.27	60.51
Malaysian Ringitt	18.26	18.34
Australian Dollar	55.23	55.45

Source:Indian Bank

Adani to hold road shows in London, Dubai, U.S.

Reuters
DUBAI

Adani Group will hold fixed-income road shows this month in London, Dubai, and several cities in the United States, according to a document seen by Reuters, as the conglomerate tries to muster up confidence drained by a U.S. short seller's report.

Adani Group management, including Group CFO Jugeshinder Singh, will attend the road shows, which will run between March 7 to March 15, the document showed.

GQG's Australian fund client queries its Adani investment

Reuters
SYDNEY

An Australian pension fund client of GQG Partners has asked the U.S. investment firm for more information about its $1.87 billion investment in the embattled Adani Group.

GQG bought shares in four Adani Group firms, marking the first major investment in the Indian conglomerate since a short seller's critical report sparked a stock rout.

The U.S. firm manages money on behalf of at least four major Australian pension funds with a total of A$563 billion under management. GQG's investment could expose these funds to Adani at a time when major investors, including Norway's sovereign wealth fund, are selling the stock.

Cbus Super, with A$71 billion under management, has a A$243 million emerging markets mandate with GQG. A spokesperson said the fund is working to get a clear picture of its Adani exposure.

"Adani entities had not been part of the portfolio, but we are currently engaging with the external manager who has recently made acquisitions in this area," they said.

GQG shares slid 3% in Australia after the investment was made public.

"There's a very high level of scepticism about what that stake means, whether they've understood the risk they're taking," said Jun Bei Liu, who manages the A$1.2 billion Tribeca Alpha Plus Fund.

Ministry seeks partners for textile training scheme

The Hindu Bureau
COIMBATORE

The Ministry of Textiles has called for applications for implementing partners for its Samarth scheme, which will be on till the end of March 2024.

The ministry has opened a window for the implementing partners - industries and industrial associations - to register before March 14, 2023.

Textiles Secretary Rachna Shah said on Friday that nearly 1.50 lakh persons (86% women) had been trained under the scheme so far and 70% of them were placed in the organised sector. The scheme covers the entire textile value chain except for spinning and weaving.

Facility management firm ISS India eyes ₹2,500 cr. by 2025

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

Our goal of doubling revenue is aligned with India's growth story, says CEO and country manager Aksh Rohatgi

Danish facility management provider ISS A/S plans to double employee base at its Indian unit to one lakh by 2025 as it sees "significant" business opportunities in India, group CEO Jacob Aarup-Andersen said here on Friday.

ISS Facility Services India (ISS India), a subsidiary of ISS Group, currently employs about 50,000 people and announced plans targeting to touch a revenue of ₹2,500 crore by 2025.

"The one lakh India employees by 2025 will happen naturally based on our growth targets in India," Mr. Andersen said.

The company, which focuses on sustainability, innovation, and skill development as its key growth drivers, said it would grow at a CAGR of 18-20% to reach its revenue target of ₹2,500 crore. In 2022, ISS India had reported revenues of ₹1,580 crore.

Aksh Rohatgi, CEO and country manager, ISS India, said, "Our goal of doubling revenue in the country by 2025 is more than just a financial target; it is an expression of our commitment to sustainable growth that is aligned with the growth story of India."

'Reverting to OPS for govt. staff will be at cost of public'

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The decision of some states to restart the Old Pension Scheme (OPS) will be decidedly a regressive move and will provide more privilege to government servants at the cost of larger public, a majority of which has no social safety net, former RBI governor D. Subbarao has said.

Under OPS, employees get a defined pension.

OPS was discontinued by the NDA government with effect from April 1, 2004. "That will be a decidedly regressive move both for our commitment to fiscal responsibility, and more broadly for the credibility of our reforms," Mr. Subbarao told PTI.

Implementation of certain norms could perpetuate existing market dominance: CEA

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

V. Anantha Nageswaran. PTI

Chief Economic Advisor V. Anantha Nageswaran on Friday said that implementation of certain regulations by regulators could perpetuate existing market dominance as he cited the data and privacy norms in the technology space.

Delivering the keynote address at a conference organised by the Competition Commission of India (CCI), he emphasised that while competition drives innovation, there is also a distinction between competition and free markets.

He pointed out that competition agencies must be mindful of the unintended consequences of their actions. "In the technology space, regulators implement data and privacy norms that guarantee users complete access to their data," the CEA said.

"In such situations, users can end up chasing only the large players since they place a great degree of trust in them.

"This will ultimately lead to loss of competition across similar platforms, concentrating power in the hands of few," he added.

"What we do with good intent, with public good in mind, can actually end up perpetuating existing dominance," he said.

'Excess competition'

At the National Conference on Economics of Competition Law, he also said that excess competition itself would be undesirable, including in sectors like banking, insurance and securities.

"Competition factors that make other sectors more attractive can actually be a cause for systemic instability in these sectors," Mr. Nageswaran said, adding that regulators and competition agencies should keep an eye on systemic welfare or lack of it.

"Benefits bestowed on society as a product of competition forces are often conflated with the effects of the operations of the free market... it is important to distinguish between free markets and competition," he said.

According to him, telecom, digital services, health and pharmaceuticals sectors in the U.S. have all displayed a failure of the ability of free market enterprises to create a genuinely competitive setting as posited by theory.

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGCO25521)
No.:SEE/EE/Tr/W&M/DVG/AEE-1/F-114/22-23/Cys-154 Date: 03.03.2023

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(e-Procurement mode only)

KPTCL E-Tenders are invited in the prescribed form from Reputed **Electrical Contractor possessing Super Grade Electrical Contractor** License for the following works on **Partial Turnkey Basis.**

1) Bid Enquiry No.: KPTCL/SEE/W&M/DVG/EE/AEE-1/22-23/81/Call-2/Dated: 03.03.2023 for **Providing 2 no's of 11KV PCVCB breaker at 66/11KV MUSS Kadajji in TL & SS Division KPTCL, Davanagere for bifurcation of over loaded feeders.**

2) Bid Enquiry No.: KPTCL/SEE/W&M/DVG/EE/AEE-1/22-23/62/Call-2/Dated: 27.02.2023 for **Providing Four No of additional 11KV MCVCB (11C + 4 feeder) for bifurcation of 11KV feeders in 66/11KV MUSS Anagodu in TL & SS Division Davanagere.**

Tenders will be accepted through e-procurement Mode Only. For further details, prospective Bidders are advised to log on to **website: https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** or **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** & click on to hyperlink e-procurement-kptcl to participate in e-procurement portal on or **after 06.03.2023.**

Sd/-, Superintending Engineer, (Ele), Transmission (W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Near Stadium, Hadadi Road, Davangere.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the, Executive Engineer-3, Solid Waste Management, Dasappa Hospital Compound, N.R Road, Bengaluru- 560 002.
No: EE-3/SWM/TEND/09/2022-23 Dated: 03.03.2023

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only)

The Executive Engineer-3, Solid Waste Management, invites tenders from eligible bidders for the works detailed in the table below:

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	No of Manpower	EMD (Rs in Lakhs)
1.	Providing the services of Solid Waste Inspectors to Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike-**Package-1** (East, Bommanahalli, Mahadevapura & RR Nagar zones).	110	7.31 (Rs. 1.00 Lakh though e- procure ment portal & remaining 6.31 Lakhs through Bank Guarantee)
2.	Providing the services of Solid Waste Inspectors to Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike-**Package-2** (South, West, Dasarahalli & Yelahanka zones).	105	7.00 (Rs. 1.00 Lakh though e procurement portal & remaining 6.00 Lakh through Bank Guarantee)

1) Tender documents may be downloaded from Government of Karnataka e-Procurement website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** 2) Last Date for receipt of Tenders: **13.03.2023 upto 4.00 p.m. 3)** Last date for uploading queries **: 08.03.2023 upto 2.00 p.m. 4)** Pre-Bid Meeting : **08.03.2023 at 4:00 p.m. 5)** Date of Opening of Technical bids : **14.03.2023 by 4.30 p.m.** or next working day. Further details can be had from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Executive Engineer-3, Solid Waste Management

Government of Karnataka
Office of the Executive Engineer, Miner Irrigation And Ground Water Development Division, Ballari
IFT No.EE/MI&GWDD/Bly/AE/2022-23/513 Date :02.03.2023

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (KW-3 & 4)

On behalf of Hon'ble Governor of Karnataka the Exécutive Engineer, Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development Division Ballari invited the tender for the 02 works of Kudligi Taluk Vijayanagar Dist, under Head of Account **DMF** in Two Cover System **Minimum Estimated amount put to tender is Rs.87.69 lakhs and Maximum Estimated amount put to tender is Rs.204.84 lakhs** the tenderers should download and submitt the tenders from **date : 02.03.2023 to 10.03.2023 upto 17.30 hours. Date & Time of opening Technical Bid is on 13.03.2023 at 11.00 hours. Opening of Financial Bid is on 16.03.2023 at 11.00 hours**. Any other information should get by login the website http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in
Sd/- Executive Engineer, M.I.&G.W.D.Division, Ballari.
DIPR/Ballari/987/KSMCA/2022-23

Government of Karnataka
Public Works Department Office of the Executive Engineer, Davanagere Division, Davanagere.
Notice No.: IFT-55/JE/2022-23/3645 Date: 01.03.2023

e-Procurement Tender Notice

Ref: Tender Notice No. of this office: EE/DDD/ IFT-55/2022-23 Date: 01.03.2023
On behalf of the Governor of Karnataka, the undersigned invites Tenders in two cover system through e-procurement portal of GoK as per KTPP Act 2000 and Standard Tender Document KW- 3 & 4 related to Channagiri Taluk in the limits of Public Works Department, Davanagere Division from eligible Tenderers registered in Karnataka Public Works Department. 1) Construction of Community Hall in Devarahalli Village of Channagiri Taluk (166065) Rs. 500.00 lakhs. 2) Government Office Buildings Complex Work Stage – 2 in Channagiri Town of Davanagere District (Page No. 58 Sl. No. 33) (165304) Rs. 300.00 lakhs. 3) Landscaping, Pavers and other development works at Inspection Bungalow in Channagiri Town (165009) Rs. 100.00 lakhs. Last date for receipt of Tender for works: 10.03.2023 up to 4.00 PM. Date of opening the Tender: 13.03.2023 up to 4.30 PM. Further details can be obtained from the above office during office hours (Phone: 08192-234951, 231530) or website: http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in
ವಾಸಾಇ/ಡಿವಿಜಿ/996/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/2022–23 Sd/- Executive Engineer

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜನೀಯರರು, ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ವಿಭಾಗ ಕಾರವಾರ
ಸಂ: ಕಾ.ನಿ.ಇಂ./ಲೋ.ಇ.ವಿ.ಕಾ/ಪಿ.ಬಿ–2/ಟೆಂಡರ–45/2022–23/5310 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 24–02–2023

ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಆಹ್ವಾನ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್)

ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನ ಕೋಷ್ಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ ವಿವರಿಸಿರುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜನೀಯರರು, ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಕಾರವಾರ ಇವರಿಂದ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಕೋಷ್ಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೊಟ್ಟಿರುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆಯನ್ನು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವದು. ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆಯನ್ನು ವಹಿಸಲು ಅರ್ಹರಾಗಬೇಕಾದಲ್ಲಿ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು **(ಕೆಡಬ್ಲೂ–4)** ರಲ್ಲಿ ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಿರುವ ಷರತ್ತುಗಳನ್ನು ಗಮನಿಸುವದು.

(1) ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ವಿಚಾರಣೆಗೆ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿ: **06.03.2023 16.30 ಗಂಟೆ ವರೆಗೆ** (2) ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿ: **07.03.2023 16.30 ಗಂಟೆ ವರೆಗೆ** (3) ಟೆಂಡರನ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿ: **08.03.2023 17.00 ಗಂಟೆ ವರೆಗೆ** (4) ಟೆಂಡರನ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿ: **09.03.2023 17.00 ಗಂಟೆ ವರೆಗೆ**

ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಹೆಸರು: ಲೆಕ್ಕ ಶೀಷಿಕೆ : 5054-NABARD RIDF-28 During 2022-23 ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ: **(1) 165546**

(ಕೆಡಬ್ಲೂ–4) ರಲ್ಲಿನ ನಿಭಂದನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಮುಂದಿನ ದಿನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ e-proc ನಲ್ಲಿ ಸೂಚಿಸಲಾದ ನಿಭಂದನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಇಲಾಖಾ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಅಂದರೆ **"eproc.karnataka.gov.in"** ನೋಡಬಹುದು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ **help desk Bangalore (Phone No. 918025501216 & 918025501227)** ಇವರನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದು.

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು,
ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಕಾರವಾರ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಕಾರವಾರ
DIPR/ADK/KSMCA/1058/22-23 dt.27.02.2023

BLACK MARK

Indore pitch rated as 'poor', gets 3 demerit points

ICC Match Referee Chris Broad has given three demerit points to the pitch at the Holkar Stadium, Indore, where the third India-Australia Test was held. Broad, after discussions with the two captains, Rohit Sharma and Steve Smith, rated the pitch as "poor." BCCI has 14 days to appeal against the sanction.

IN HIS ELEMENT

Jason Roy sets up England's big win over Bangladesh

Jason Roy struck a century while Sam Curran put in a fine all-round performance (33 n.o. & 4/29) as England thrashed Bangladesh by 132 runs in the second ODI in Dhaka on Friday.
The scores: England 326/7 in 50 overs (Roy 132, Buttler 76) bt Bangladesh 194 in 44.4 overs (Shakib 58, Curran 4/29, Rashid 4/45).

COWARDLY ACT

Gunmen threaten Messi, shoot up family-owned supermarket

Gunmen threatened Argentine football superstar Lionel Messi in a written message when they opened fire at a supermarket owned by his in-laws in Argentina, police said. Nobody was injured in the attack on Thursday, and it was unclear why assailants would target Messi or the Unico supermarket owned by the family of his wife.

CAUSING A FLUTTER

Medvedev ends Djokovic's 20-match streak, meets Rublev

Daniil Medvedev ended Novak Djokovic's 20-match winning streak by beating the world's top-ranked player 6-4, 6-4 to reach the final of the Dubai Championships on Friday. Medvedev will face defending champion Andrey Rublev, a 6-3, 7-6(9) winner over Alexander Zverev in the other semifinal.

A cool Head leads the charge as Aussies make short work of a tricky target

Labuschagne plays a perfect foil to guide the visitors past the finish line for the loss of a solitary wicket; the comprehensive victory keeps alive Smith's men's hopes of drawing the Border-Gavaskar Trophy series and also helps them book a spot in the World Test Championship Final

AUSTRALIA IN INDIA

S. Dinakar
INDORE

With every stroke, the Indian shoulders drooped. The Australians were clinical and ruthless in their run chase.

Despite losing Usman Khawaja early, Travis Head and Marnus Labuschagne ensured that the target of 76 was surpassed 45 minutes before lunch.

Labuschagne (28 n.o.) lofted R. Ashwin to the mid-wicket boundary to bring up a famous and comprehensive nine-wicket victory for Australia on the third day of the third Test in the Border-Gavaskar Trophy, here, on Friday.

Bold and strokeful: Head's assertive, unbeaten 49 shut the Indians out of the contest. R.V. MOORTHY

Fearless approach

The left-handed Head, focused and fearless, tore into the Indian bowling on this pitch for a 53-ball unbeaten 49. A few of his strokes were brutal in nature as the Indian spinners seemed to run out of ideas on a conducive pitch.

Champion off-spinner Nathan Lyon, with 11 wickets, including eight in the second innings, was adjudged Player-of-the-Match.

Going into the final Test in Ahmedabad, India still leads the series 2-1 but after batting capitulations in the first two Tests, the victory at the Holkar Stadium restored some of Australia's pride. Australia was rocked at the start. Khawaja fell in the first over, a beautifully flighted ball from Ashwin that turned just enough to find the outside edge of the southpaw.

Labuschagne survived some anxious moments early on but gathered himself to guide Ravindra Jadeja to the point fence.

There were two slips for Jadeja, apart from a silly point. The only choice before Rohit Sharma was to attack.

Gradually, Australian batters began to find their feet. Head jumped down and struck Ashwin over mid-wicket. Like Jadeja, Ashwin had two men in the slips. However, the left-handed Head was unfazed. He pushed a fuller delivery from Ashwin through wide mid-on for a four, finding the gap in the process.

He then dismissed a flighted delivery from Ashwin over wide long-on for the maximum. Soon, he glided Jadeja to the fence.

Head's bat-speed from a relaxed stance is his strength. He's compact but generates enormous power with a quick swing of his willow. A victory was less than 40 runs away.

Labuschagne reverse-swept Ashwin to further whittle down the target. With his composure and solidity, Labuschagne gives confidence to his teammates.

Slowing down the game

Apart from keeping his end safe, Labuschagne also slowed down the game, by taking small breaks for some issue, real or otherwise, in his leg, and stopping the spinners as they were about to deliver.

Ahead of the Test, the Aussies had spoken about slowing down the proceedings since the Indian spinners, Jadeja in particular, were hustling them by providing very little gap between deliveries, preventing the batters from preparing for the next ball.

Umesh Yadav was introduced after drinks but when he provided width, Head smashed him to the cover fence. The galloping Australia had now crossed the 60-run mark. Victory was just a few hits away.

One of those blows arrived when Labuschagne pulled Umesh past the ropes. Soon it was all over. The brave Aussies had fought back with typical tenacity.

SCOREBOARD

INDIA — 1ST INNINGS
109.
AUSTRALIA — 1ST INNINGS
197.
INDIA — 2ND INNINGS
163.
AUSTRALIA — 2ND INNINGS
Usman Khawaja c Bharat b Ashwin 0 *(2b)*, Travis Head (not out) 49 *(53b, 6x4, 1x6)*, Marnus Labuschagne (not out) 28 *(58b, 6x4)*; Extras (lb-1): 1; Total (for one wkt. in 18.5 overs): 78.
FALL OF WICKET
1-0 (Khawaja, 0.2 overs).
INDIA BOWLING
Ashwin 9.5-3-44-1, Jadeja 7-1-23-0, Umesh 2-0-10-0.
Player-of-the-Match: Lyon.
Australia won by nine wickets; India leads four-Test series 2-1.

Well done, mate! Labuschagne is received back in the pavilion by Smith after the victory. GETTY IMAGES

The result of a clinical team effort, gushes Smith

Sports Bureau
INDORE

The satisfaction of a Test win in conditions suiting the opposition reflected in the glow on Steve Smith's visage.

Australia's stand-in captain said "It was a great team performance. The pressure we were able to apply with the ball was amazing."

He added. "The Usman [Khawaja] and Marnus [Labuschagne] partnership really set things up for us. The luck Marnus had with Jadeja's no-ball was a big moment in the game."

Smith said, "[Nathan] Lyon obviously got a lot of the rewards in the second innings, but the bowling group as a collective was outstanding. [Todd] Murphy built a lot of pressure. [Matthew] Kuhnemann got the big wicket of Virat [Kohli]."

He added, "The way we went about it today, the boys were just clinical. The message at the start of the day was to take the scoreboard out of play and pretend like it was the first day."

On the spectacular catches to dismiss Shreyas Iyer and Cheteshwar Pujara, Smith said, "Iyer was going at a good pace and his catch by Khawaja was really good."

He added, "And then mine. I suppose I was just fortunate that it stuck. Pujara played really nicely. That partnership could have been anything."

About captaincy in India, he said, "It's a game of chess, every ball is an event, means something. It's fun moving people around, making batsmen think."

Smith said he was happy that Australia made the WTC final. "We have ticked that box."

Rohit defends pitch, says batters let team down

World Test Championship Table

Top-3	PCT (%)	PTS	Matches			Series	Penalty
			Won	Lost	Drawn		
Australia	68.52	148	11	3	4	6	0
India	**60.29**	**123**	**10**	**5**	**2**	**6**	**-5**
Sri Lanka	53.33	64	5	4	1	5	0

■ Teams ranked on percentage of points won
■ SLOW OVER-RATE PENALTY: Teams will lose one championship point for each over short

S. Dinakar
INDORE

Disappointment was writ large on Rohit Sharma's visage. The defeat at the dustbowl at the Holkar Stadium had hurt him.

His eyes swooped across the gathering, picking out little things and then he strongly defended the nature of the pitch in the third Test here.

Reality check: Rohit and Kohli seem to be discussing what could have been done different. R.V. MOORTHY

Everyone's call

Rohit said, "When the series starts we decide what kind of pitches we've got to play on. This was everyone's call to play on such pitches. I don't think we are putting pressure on our own batters."

He added, "When we win, everything looks good. Nobody talks about batting. When we lose, these things come out."

Rohit said a majority of Indian batters fell to poor shots in the first innings. "We did not put enough runs on the board."

On Tests finishing in three days, he said this was not happening in India alone. "The batters have to adapt to the conditions for the Tests to last longer," he said. Queried on plans for a greentop in Ahmedabad, Rohit replied, "We will address it in Ahmedabad."

Still on pitches, he said, "Honestly, this pitch talk is just getting too much. Everytime we play in India, the only focus is the pitch."

About former cricketers criticising such pitches, Rohit said, "I don't think they've played on pitches like this."

Talking about Shreyas Iyer and Cheteshwar Pujara, Rohit said, "When you're playing on pitches like this, you need a Shreyas Iyer kind of innings. Someone who can take down the bowlers. Pujara being Pujara, loves spending time in the middle." Rohit said Nathan Lyon, given his consistency and variety, was the finest contemporary overseas spinner to visit India.

Australia makes WTC final, India has to wait

S. Dinakar
INDORE

Australia's against-the-odds victory in the third Test over India here on Friday has guaranteed the side a place in the World Test championship final to be held in England in June.

Australia now has 148 points from 18 Tests, at a percentage of 68.52. Irrespective of the result in the fourth Test at Ahmedabad, Australia is through to the summit clash. India has 123 points from 17 Tests at a percentage of 60.29.

If India defeats Australia in the fourth Test, it will qualify for the final. If India goes down or the match is drawn, Rohit and his men will have to wait for Sri Lanka's away series in New Zealand to know their fate. Sri Lanka has 64 points from 10 Tests at 53.33. If Sri Lanka defeats New Zealand 2-0, the Emerald Islanders will be in the final, at the expense of India.Missing out by a short-head is South Africa that has 88 points from 14 Tests, at 52.38. The ICC sent a release after India's win over Australia in Delhi that South Africa was no longer in the race.

Ahead of the Test here, Rohit said India could prepare a green seamer-friendly pitch in Ahmedabad to prepare for the WTC final in the Old Blighty.Now that idea could prove disastrous for India. Expect another spinner-friendly pitch in Ahmedabad.

This WTC final race may go down to the wire.

Indians fail to progress; Miwa in the spotlight

WTT CONTENDER GOA

Amol Karhadkar
PANAJI

India's campaign came to an end with Sutirtha Mukherjee and Manika Batra, losing their women's singles pre-quarterfinals. The day's honours at the WTT Star Contender Goa on Friday went to Miwa Harimoto, the rising star from a family of table tennis champions and younger sister of teen sensation Tomokazu.

At 14, Miwa has risen to the 41st place in the women's rankings' list. The child prodigy stormed into the women's singles quarterfinal and entered the women's doubles and mixed doubles final.

While Sutirtha could not match her 44-year-old opponent Fu Yu's speed to bow out in straight games, Manika played an exciting match against China's rising star Tianyi Qian. After losing the first two games, Manika adopted an aggressive approach to win the third. However, after a four-point streak that placed her 6-5 ahead in the fourth game, Qian took a time-out and forced Manika into multiple errors to wrap up the match.

Smashing success: Miyu and Miwa made the women's doubles final. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The results:

Singles: Pre-quarterfinals:
Men: Tomokazu Harimoto (Jap) bt Simon Gauzy (Fra) 11-9, 11-8, 11-9; Lin Gaoyuan (Chn) bt Kristian Carlsson (Swe) 8-11, 11-7, 9-11, 11-6, 11-7; Lin Shidong (Chn) bt Cho Daeseong (Kor) 11-9, 5-11, 9-11, 11-5, 11-4.
Women: Miwa Harimoto (Jap) bt Chen Szu-Yu (Tpe) 11-8, 10-12, 11-5, 14-12; Fu Yu (Por) bt Sutirtha Mukherjee (Ind) 11-5, 11-7, 11-5; Xiaoxin Yang (Mon) bt Liu Weishan 9-11, 9-11, 11-8, 14-12, 11-7; Tianyi Qian (Chn) bt Manika Batra (Ind) 11-6, 11-3, 9-11, 11-7. **Doubles: Semifinals:**
Mixed: Woojin Jang & Jiheen Jeon (Kor) bt Tomokazu Harimoto & Hina Hayata (Jap) 6-11, 9-11, 11-8, 11-8, 11-8; Togami Shunsuke & Miwa Harimoto (Jap) bt Emmanuel Lebesson & Jia Nan Yuan (Fra) 11-9, 13-11, 11-8.
Women: Cheng I-Ching & Li Yu-Jhun (Tpe) bt Hyoojo Choi & Zion Lee (Kor) 9-11, 11-4, 11-7, 6-11, 11-7; Miwa Harimoto & Miyu Nagasaki (Jap) bt Christina Kallberg & Linda Bergstrom (Swe) 11-5, 12-10, 11-2.
Men: Togami Shunsuke & Ukiya Uda (Jap) bt Woojin Jang & Jonghoom Lim (Kor) 11-5, 3-11, 11-3, 6-11, 11-8; An Jaehyun & Cho Seungmin (Kor) bt Mizuki Oikawa & Yuto Kuzukuri (Jap) 11-7, 5-11, 11-8, 11-6.

Broad smiles all around as women's cricket welcomes a new dawn

The stage is set for what is already the second-richest cricket league in the world, after the IPL, and is expected to cause ripples across the world

WPL

P.K. Ajith Kumar
NAVI MUMBAI

Time for action: The Gujarat Giants players having a workout on the eve of the WPL opener against Mumbai Indians. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Dusk on Saturday will see a new dawn for women's cricket.

The Women's Premier League, the first ball of which will be bowled at the D.Y. Patil Stadium here at 7.30 p.m., is sure to change the women's game. Not just in India, its ripples will be felt across the cricketing world.

Long in the making

Like what the IPL did for men's cricket. If the IPL was the BCCI's instant response to the Indian Cricket League, which was threatening to play the role of disrupter, the WPL has been in the making for a long time.

As precursor to the tournament, the Women's T20 Challenge was conducted in 2018 in Mumbai.

It was just a one-match affair, with the BCCI putting together two teams comprising Indian and foreign players. Trailblazers were led by Smriti Mandhana and Supernovas by Harmanpreet Kaur.

At the WPL, they are the captains of Royal Challengers Bangalore and Mumbai Indians. Meg Lanning, Alyssa Healy and Beth Mooney were among the overseas players then.

The Aussie trio are leading Delhi Capitals, UP Warriorz and Gujarat Giants. Fellow Australians Ellyse Perry and Meghan Schutt, along with New Zealand's Sophie Devine, were also there and are back for the WPL, too.

The T20 Challenge grew to a three-team tournament in 2019. Then things finally fell into place for the launch of the WPL, with the BCCI announcing in late January the five franchises that won bids to own teams. The BCCI's coffers became richer by a staggering ₹4,700 crore. The media rights had already fetched ₹951 crore.

The auctions were held at Mumbai three weeks ago. Now the stage is set for what is already the second-richest cricket league (after the IPL, of course). The BCCI could afford to smile.

Come a long way

The smiles are broader on the faces of India's women cricketers, who had been the poor relatives for decades until the BCCI took them under its wing. They used to travel unreserved on trains, on bullock carts and *tongas* even, and stayed in dormitories.

Now they fly around the globe and check into five-star hotels.

Their parents are no longer worried about their complexions being ruined by playing in the sun.

By the time the curtains come down on the WPL on March 26, the number of those parents will have increased. That will make Indian women's cricket stronger.

Today's match: Gujarat Giants vs. Mumbai Indians, 7.30 p.m.

Mooney and Harmanpreet anticipate a worthy start

P.K. Ajith Kumar
NAVI MUMBAI

Mooney. AFP

Much has happened for Beth Mooney since she last played at the D.Y. Patil Stadium. Last Sunday, she became the Player of the Match at the T20 World Cup final in Cape Town.

It was her brilliant unbeaten 74 off 53 balls on a slow track that laid the foundation for Australia's sixth triumph at the T20 World Cup. Back in December, she was just as brilliant here when she opened for Australia against India in the T20I series.

Mooney made 89 not out (57b) and 82 not out (54b) on the ground, where she will lead Gujarat Giants against Mumbai Indians in the first ever match of the Women's Premier League.

"I think it is a great ground where we had the second T20I, (which was attended) by 47,000 people, and I hope we will get something similar on Saturday night, especially with the opening ceremony." Mooney said.

"The way forward for women's cricket is being dynamic, explosive and entertaining. That happens in T20 cricket and it is a great ground for that."

She believes the WPL will have an impact on not just Indian cricket.

"I think it will have a lasting impact globally," she said. "More opportunities are popping up here and there for us to play in these different tournaments.

"I think the biggest thing that will come out of this is that young and senior players will get opportunities to execute their skills under pressure, which we see a lot in international cricket."

She said captaincy in the WPL hadn't been on the radar for her.

"Mithali (Raj) called me up in South Africa and said the franchise would be happy if I became captain," Mooney said.

Raring to go

Her counterpart Harmanpreet Kaur said it would be a good match against Giants. "I am someone who is happy to have a lot of all-rounders in the side and we have them," she said.

"We have a balanced side and we will give our hundred percent."

Tara Norris — the rare American in big-time cricket

P.K. Ajith Kumar
NAVI MUMBAI

Tara.

> I am looking forward to how the WPL pans out

An American cricketer in the Women's Premier League?

If you thought that was not very likely, you are not alone. Tara Norris did too. So she was in for a surprise when she was bought by Delhi Capitals.

"My expectations were a bit low to be honest and obviously I wouldn't put my name into the hat like a lot of players," a beaming Norris told *The Hindu*. "I felt really proud to get picked and I am representing not just the United States but all Associate nations."

A good idea

The 24-year-old left-arm seamer was the only player from the Associate nations to interest the franchises at the auction, despite the rule that a player from such a country could be added to the eleven in addition to the four overseas players.

"I think it is a really good idea, and I hope the franchises would catch on to it and more Associate players get the opportunity," she said.

Norris, who has already the experience of playing in The Hundred in England, believes the WPL could be even bigger. "I have enjoyed my experience at The Hundred, where I played for Southern Braves in the last couple of years," she said.

"Now I am looking forward to how the WPL pans out. I think its influence will not just be on women's cricket, but for all women's sports."

Delighted

She is delighted that she has become a part of Capitals. "We have some unbelievably good internationals and some fine young players, like Titas Sadhu, who is back after helping India win the Under-19 World Cup," said the Philadelphia-born Norris, who was attracted to cricket after her dad's job took her to England.

Among her favourite cricketers as a young girl was M.S. Dhoni. She is a fan of Virat Kohli, Stuart Broad, Sam Curran, Jemimah Rodrigues, her teammate at Capitals, and Smriti Mandhana. "I have never seen anyone time the ball as well as Smriti," she said.

Verstappen looks to enter elite club as 2023 season begins

FORMULA ONE

S. Dipak Ragav

**The first full season for de Vries who made his debut for Williams at the 2022 Italian GP*

When the 2023 Formula One season gets underway in Bahrain on Sunday, reigning double-World champion Max Verstappen will look to do what only four drivers have done so far in the sport's history.

Aiming for a hat-trick of titles, Verstappen will look to join an elite club that includes Juan Manuel Fangio, Michael Schumacher, Sebastian Vettel and Lewis Hamilton.

After triumphing, following a tense fight with Hamilton in 2021, Verstappen dominated 2022 with a record 15 race wins. Coming into the season, and based on the timings from last week's pre-season test in Bahrain, Red Bull again looks like the car to beat.

Last year, Ferrari started well, with Charles Leclerc winning the first two races before reliability woes, strategy errors, and a general lack of pace snuffed out the potential of a tense title fight.

Ferrari turnaround?

Ferrari was close to Red Bull's pace in pre-season this year and would hope to be fighting at the sharp end of the grid.

However, the Italian team's race-day operations have not been up to the mark, and last year's strategy errors cost its team principal Mattia Binotto his job. With a new team boss (Frederic Vasseur) and a new head of strategy in place, Ferrari will hope for better outcomes.

At 25, Leclerc, like Verstappen, is a generational talent, and if Ferrari can give him a car capable of fighting for wins regularly, F1 fans could be in for the start of a new-age rivalry.

Mercedes, which dominated the sport from 2014-2021, dropped the ball last year and will likely start as the third-best team this year too.

If and when the German marque can start fighting for wins consistently, Hamilton showed he still has the hunger to go for that record eighth-title even as a young charger in George Russell is nipping at his heels in the other side of his garage.

LIVE TELECAST

Irani Cup: SS Select 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 9.30 a.m.

I-League: Eurosport (SD & HD), 3 p.m.

Premier League: SS Select 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 6, 8.30 & 11 p.m.

LaLiga: Jio Cinema App, 6.30, 8.45 p.m.; Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 11 p.m. & 1.30 a.m. (Sunday)

PVL: Sony Sports Ten 1, 2, 3 (SD & HD) & LIV, 7 p.m.

Serie A: Jio Cinema App, 7.30, 10.30 p.m. & 1.15 a.m. (Sunday)

WPL: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 7.30 p.m.

ISL: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7.30 p.m

Bundesliga: Sony LIV, 8 p.m.; Sony Sports Ten 2 .(SD & HD) & LIV, 11 p.m.

NBA: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 8.30 p.m.

Formula One: Bahrain GP (Qualifying), F1TV App, 8.30 p.m.

Alonso is the fastest

Agence France-Presse
SAKHIR

Fernando Alonso produced the fastest lap for Aston Martin ahead of favourite Red Bull in practice for Formula One's Bahrain season-opener on Friday.

The 41-year-old Spaniard lapped the Sakhir circuit in 1m 30.907s.

The time on soft tyres was 0.169 quicker than Red Bull's double world champion Max Verstappen.

Alonso had set the second best time in the first daylight session, behind Red Bull's Mexican Sergio Perez who was third later on under the floodlights.

The Red Bull drivers were separated by just 0.002 of a second.

Alonso has not won a race for a decade, his last coming at the 2013 Spanish Grand Prix with Ferrari.

Torpedoes make the summit clash

Thrilled: Torpedoes players celebrate a point. H. VIBHU

PVL

Stan Rayan
KOCHI

Former Olympic champion David Lee played his cards smartly as Bengaluru Torpedoes shocked defending champion Kolkata Thunderbolts 3-1 and marched into the final of the Prime Volleyball League here on Friday.

With Vinit Kumar, Ashwal Rai and Cody Caldwell in fine touch, the Thunderbolts appeared to have the edge as it led 12-10 in the third set.

The teams had shared the first two sets. But the Torpedoes called for a super point attempt and Alireza's tactical ball helped the side draw level at 12. Moments later, attacker Pankaj Sharma came up with a serve that danced tantalisingly on the net as the Thunderbolts' front court struggled to return it. That was probably the turning point of the match and when Cody Caldwell's smash went out, the Torpedoes took a surprise 2-1 lead.

Clearly inspired, a drop from Mujeeb saw the Torpedoes race to a 4-0 lead and later, when Caldwell's drop went out, Bengaluru extended it to 8-2. Thunderbolts appeared to have lost steam after that.

The result (semifinal): Bengaluru Torpedoes bt Kolkata Thunderbolts 3-1 (15-10, 10-15, 15-13, 15-10).

Crying foul: The Blasters players, led by the coach, exited the field after Chhetri, left, scored off a free-kick in extra-time. K. MURALI KUMAR

Bengaluru FC advances after Blasters walk out in protest

ISL-9

N. Sudarshan
BENGALURU

The first-ever Indian Super League knockout match didn't deserve the finish it got. Kerala Blasters, led by its coach Ivan Vukomanovic, walked off the pitch protesting an extra-time goal scored by Bengaluru FC's Sunil Chhetri, and thus ended up forfeiting the tie.

The 1-0 scoreline at the Sree Kanteerava Stadium on Friday sent BFC through to the semifinal where it will face Mumbai City FC.

In the 97th minute, Chhetri took a free-kick early, even as the Blasters players were making up their minds about the wall, and the ball soared into the unguarded net, over goalkeeper Prabhsukhan Singh Gill. Even as the home faithful went into raptures, the miffed Blasters players chose to protest in the least desirable way.

There were parleys for about 20 minutes before the Match Commissioner handed BFC the game.

"I told the referee that I neither wanted the whistle nor the wall," said Chhetri later.

"He asked if I was sure and I said yes. I tried to hit it once and they [Blasters] blocked it.

"So I thought they knew what I was going to do. Then I was about to ask the referee for 10 yards space. But I got a small window and that was it.

"About what happened after that, I don't want to comment. It's their decision. My personal opinion is... I can understand the Kerala Blasters players' feelings and disappointment. But I would not leave [the pitch]. Even if the club wants me to, I wouldn't."

It wasn't as if Blasters had dominated the match and were hard done by.

But for the final 15 minutes, the visitors were mostly pedestrian, with the hosts' Roy Krishna coming close thrice in the opening 25 minutes alone. Near the hour-mark, Prabhsukhan, diving to his right, denied Suresh Wangjam what looked a certain goal.

That Blasters held on to stretch the contest into extra-time was admirable. With half-an-hour's action to follow, and potential penalties to come, the thousands in the stands would have anticipated an exciting finish.

Instead, the evening will be remembered for the acrimony and resentment, and for being a bad advertisement for the sport.

Iron Age for Sprinters' Cup

Silvarius appeals in the Stayers' Cup

Riaz Babu
BENGALURU

THE INDIAN TURF INVITATION WEEKEND 2023

The eight-year-old Iron Age, who is in great heart, should score in the Zavaray S. Poonawalla Sprinters' Cup, while Silvarius should come good in the Dr. M.A.M. Ramaswamy Chettiar of Chettinad Memorial Stayers' Cup, the two plum events to be run on Saturday (March 4).

1 The Royal Calcutta Turf Club Million (1400m), rated 20 to 45 — 1.15 p.m.

1	Divine Blessings	Neil B. Devaney	Y.S. Srinath	6	61.5
2	Impiana	S.S. Attaollahi	L.A. Rozario	7	60.5
3	The Omega Man	Mahmood Khan	V. Naveen Kumar	5	60.5
4	Cyrenius	S. Padmanabhan	A. Sandesh	8	60
5	Capriati	–	–	–	58.5
6	Step Up Girl	Md. Sajid Qureshi	Imran Chisty	4	58
7	The Golden Dream	Sharat Kumar	N. Arvind Kumar	14	56
8	Aquamatic	Irfan Ghatala	S. Saqlain	13	55
9	Ardakan	Pradeep Annaiah	Salman Khan	3	55
10	Striking Point	V. Lokanath	Vivek G	9	55
11	The Perfect Choice	Sharat Kumar	K. Sai Kiran	1	55
12	Foi	Aravind Ganapathy	Bhawani Singh	12	54.5
13	Limited Edition	M. Rajendra Singh	Mustakim Alam	11	54
14	Activated	Warren Singh	Nazerul Alam	15	53
15	Emeraldo	Kishan Thomas	B. Dharshan	2	51.5

DIVINE BLESSINGS: Looks fit and well. **IMPIANA:** A runaway winner over 1,400m in her last start; retains form. **CYRENIUS:** His nowhere in Forseti's South India 2000 Guineas is best ignored; moving impressively in the morning trials. **AQUAMATIC:** Has come on after his third to Roman Power (1,400m). **FOI:** Unplaced in Santorino's 1,600m; earlier finished a close second to Mystical Merkabah (1,400m); in fine condition.

1. IMPIANA | 2. AQUAMATIC | 3. CYRENIUS

2 The Madras Race Club Million (2000m), rated 40 to 65 — 1.50 p.m.

1	Lord Frankel	S. Padmanabhan	Mustakim Alam	1	61.5
2	Aurele	Feroz M. Khan	Y. S. Srinath	4	60
3	Inyouwebelieve	Prasanna Kumar	P. Trevor	7	59
4	Santorino	Irfan Ghatala	S. John	3	57.5
5	Stormy Ocean	Darius Byramji	Imran Chisty	10	57
6	Golden Time	V. Lokanath	S. Saqlain	2	54.5
7	Rue St Honore'	Imtiaz A. Sait	Neeraj Rawal	9	54
8	Successful	S. Narredu	Kiran Naidu	5	54
9	Southern Dynasty	S. Ganapathy	C.S. Jodha	6	53
10	Triumphant	S.S. Attaollahi	Akshay Kumar	8	50

INYOUWEBELIEVE: Won a 1,600m impressively in her last start; maintains form. **SANTORINO:** A resolute winner over 1,600m in the lower class; may score again. **STORMY OCEAN:** Carried 62.5 kg to a comfortable victory over 1,800m in his last start; may score an encore. **RUE ST HONORE':** A failed favourite in Murwaraprinces' 2,000m at Mumbai; working well here. **TRIUMPHANT:** Twice second; may raise a winning gallop today.

1. SANTORINO | 2. STORMY OCEAN | 3. INYOUWEBELIEVE

3 The Coromandel Gromor Juvenile Million (1200m), 3-y-o only Indian fillies — 2.25 p.m.

1	Moonlight Queen	Rakesh	S. Saqlain	3	58.5
2	She Can	R.H. Sequeira	Akshay Kumar	7	58.5
3	Fondness Of You	Rajesh Narredu	Yash Narredu	6	55.5
4	Kind Of Magic	Vijay Singh	P. Trevor	5	55.5
5	Fast Pace	Prithviraj	P.S. Chouhan	2	51.5
6	Galaticus	Rajesh Narredu	Vinod Shinde	4	51.5
7	Golden Peaks	Parvati Byramji	Imran Chisty	1	51.5

SHE CAN: A resolute winner of both the starts at Malakpet; continues to be in good form. **KIND OF MAGIC:** Found La Dominate too good over 1,100m in her last start at Kolkata; moving well in the morning trials here. **FAST PACE:** Has improved after the second to Roman Spirit (1,100m). **GOLDEN PEAKS:** On her debut, finished third to Elpenor (1200m); has come on.

1. SHE CAN | 2. FAST PACE | 3. KIND OF MAGIC

4 The Royal Western India Turf Club Million (1600m), rated 60 to 85 — 3.00 p.m.

1	Last Wish	Neil B. Devaney	Y. S. Srinath	4	60
2	Square The Circle	Md. Sajid Qureshi	Vivek G	6	59
3	Albinus	James Mckeown	Neeraj Rawal	8	58
4	Supreme Dance	J. Sebastian	Yash Narredu	3	58
5	Tiger Mountain	D. Netto	Hindu Singh	2	57.5
6	Ashwa Yudhvir	Rajesh Narredu	Suraj Narredu	12	57
7	Etosha	Neil Darashah	Likith Appu	10	55.5
8	Capable	Sharat Kumar	K. Sai Kiran	5	55
9	Balor	Darius Byramji	Imran Chisty	7	54.5
10	Philosophy	S. Padmanabhan	A Sandesh	1	54.5
11	Ruling Goddess	S.S. Attaollahi	R.N. Darshan	9	54.5
12	Shabelle	S.S. Attaollahi	Akshay Kumar	11	54.5

LAST WISH: His Nowhere in the Indian Derby is best ignored. **SUPREME DANCE:** Made every post a winning one over 1,600m in his last start at Chennai; may repeat. **ASHWA YUDHVIR:** Winner of the North Indian Derby (1,600m), at Delhi; in fine nick. **ETOSHA:** Finished second in his last two starts; may raise a winning gallop today. **PHILOSOPHY:** Ran nowhere in Mirra's Indian Derby (2,400m); working attractively.

1. PHILOSOPHY | 2. ASHWA YUDHVIR | 3. SUPREME DANCE

5 The Zavaray S. Poonawalla Sprinters' Cup (1200m), 4-y-o & over — 3.35 p.m.

1	Agnostic	Bharath Singh	Akshay Kumar	6	59
2	Cool Rider	Neil Darashah	Y. S. Srinath	3	59
3	Golden Oaks	S. Padmanabhan	A Sandesh	4	59
4	Iron Age	Imtiaz A. Sait	P. Trevor	5	59
5	Leopard Rock	Deepesh Narredu	Yash Narredu	1	59
6	Siege Perilous	Prasanna Kumar	S. John	2	59
7	Aztec Queen	Kishan Thomas	Imran Chisty	7	57.5
8	Hunting Goddess	P. Shroff	P.S. Chouhan	8	57.5
9	Lagos	D. Netto	Suraj Narredu	9	57.5

AGNOSTIC: A rousing performer; is in great heart. **IRON AGE:** Winner of his last two starts at Mumbai; the 8-year-old continues to be in good form. **LEOPARD ROCK:** A comfortable winner of the South India Sprinters Trial Stakes (1,200m) at Chennai; impressed in a mock race here; may repeat. **SIEGE PERILOUS:** Runs with an upsetting chance. **HUNTING GODDESS:** A good second to Iron Age in the Dr. S.C. Jain Sprinters' Championship at Mumbai; in fine trim.

1. IRON AGE | 2. AGNOSTIC | 3. LEOPARD ROCK

6 The Tetrasoft Million (1400m), rated 70 and above — 4.10 p.m.

1	Havelock Cruise	Surender G.T.	L.A. Rozario	4	65
2	Golden Guest	Parvati Byramji	B. Dharshan	1	59
3	Star Glory	S. Narredu	Suraj Narredu	7	59
4	Automatic	Irfan Ghatala	R.N. Darshan	2	58
5	Forseti	Prasanna Kumar	P.S. Chouhan	5	54
6	Shubankar	Warren Singh	Akshay Kumar	3	51.5
7	Yukan	S.S. Attaollahi	S. Saqlain	6	51.5

STAR GLORY: His last run is best ignored. **FORSETI:** A good fourth to Dyf in the Wolf 777 South India Derby (2,400m); working impressively. **SHUBANKAR:** An impressive winner of his last two starts; may complete hat-trick. **YUKAN:** Runs with an upsetting chance.

1. FORSETI | 2. SHUBANKAR | 3. YUKAN

7 The Dr. M.A.M. Ramaswamy Chettiar of Chettinad Memorial Stayers' Cup (3000m), 4-y-o & over — 4.45 p.m.

1	Arc De Triomphe	Adhiraj S. Jodha	P. Trevor	2	59
2	Fire Power	S.S. Attaollahi	Akshay Kumar	7	59
3	My Opinion	B. Suresh	Y. S. Srinath	6	59
4	Silvarius	A. Mangalorkar	S. John	1	59
5	Chamonix	P. Shroff	P.S. Chouhan	3	57.5
6	Serdar	Aravind Ganapathy	Bhawani Singh	5	56.5
7	Success	Vijay Singh	Suraj Narredu	4	55

ARC DE TRIOMPHE: In a start-to-finish attempt won the CBTF On-Line South India St. Leger (2,800m) in a gutsy manner; maintains form. **MY OPINION:** A good second to Arc De Triomphe (2,800m); the 8-y-o continues to be zestful. **SILVARIUS:** A comfortable winner of the Stayers Trial Stakes (2,400m); in fine nick. **SUCCESS:** After winning the Wolf 777 Calcutta Derby (2,400m), finished second to A Star Is Born over 2,000m; track movements pleasing.

1. SILVARIUS | 2. ARC DE TRIOMPHE | 3. SUCCESS

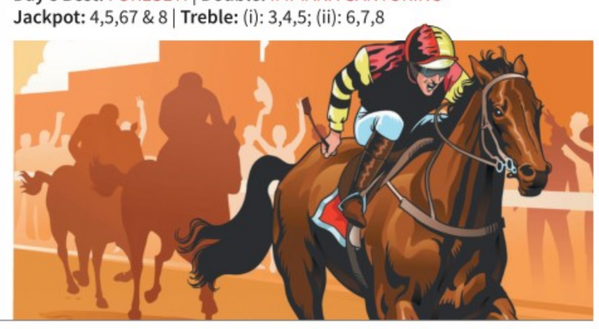
8 The Mysore Race Club Million (1200m), rated 20 to 45, 4-y-o only — 5.20 p.m.

1	Seoul (Ex- Aguila)	Aravind Ganapathy	C.S. Jodha	5	60
2	Step To Destiny	V. Lokanath	Vinod Shinde	9	59
3	Sheer Bliss	S. Narredu	Kiran Naidu	13	58
4	White Roses	S.S. Attaollahi	P. Trevor	14	58
5	Aldgate	A. Mangalorkar	Antony Raj S.	15	57.5
6	Ooh La La	Mahmood Khan	P. Mani	3	57.5
7	Agera	Pradeep Annaiah	L.A. Rozario	8	55
8	Breeze Bluster	V. Lokanath	Akshay Kumar	11	55
9	Groovin	M. Rajendra Singh	D.S. Deora	12	55
10	Opus One	Irfan Ghatala	S. Saqlain	6	55
11	The Athabasca	Sharat Kumar	K. Sai Kiran	10	55
12	Klimt	S. Padmanabhan	Mustakim Alam	7	54
13	Oasis Class	M. Rajendra Singh	Imran Chisty	4	53.5
14	Chinky Pinky	Darius Byramji	B. Dharshan	2	52
15	Lady Godiva	Kishan Thomas	Vivek G	1	51.5

SHEER BLISS: After leading till the last 100m, finished third to Tripitaka over 1,200m; deserves another chance. **WHITE ROSES:** A forward runner in Nicolina's (1,400m), moving well in the morning trials. **ALDGATE:** Fit for the fray. **BREEZE BLUSTER:** has improved since his fourth to Impiana (1400m). **OPUS ONE:** Working well; may upset. **KLIMT:** After leading in the straight, finished fifth to Magneto (1,600m) at Kolkata; may spring a surprise.

1. KLIMT | 2. ALDGATE | 3. WHITE ROSES

Day's Best: FORESETI | Double: IMPIANA-SANTORINO
Jackpot: 4,5,67 & 8 | Treble: (i): 3,4,5; (ii): 6,7,8



WHAT THE PROFESSIONALS SAY

SPRINTERS' CUP

Bharath Singh: A lot of people wrote Agnostic off saying he was only good in Kolkata but he came out and beat top sprinters in Bengaluru while winning the Sprinters Trial. I think he runs with an outstanding chance.

Neil Darashah: Cool Rider showed tremendous promise as a juvenile. He had major injury problems and was out of racing for almost 500 days. I think I have got him back to his best and hasn't put a foot wrong when winning four races on the trot. I think he has a great chance.

S. Padmanabhan: Golden Oaks had a bit of infection after his last start which was why he may have run below his form. Has recovered and will be right there.

Imtiaz Sait: Though Iron Age is the oldest in the race, he hasn't lost any of his zest for racing. He has a touch of class and will be right there.

Deepesh Narredu: Leopard Rock has done everything asked of him and will run a good race.

P.S. Chouhan: Hunting Goddess is a very good filly, though short on experience but improving. May have been beaten by Iron Age the last time we met, but we have the scope to improve.

STAYERS' CUP

P. Trevor: Arc De Triomphe won the South India Leger, beating some good horses. Relishes the trip and I think he has a great chance.

B. Suresh: The eight-year-old My Opinion is going strong and still enjoys his racing. Will be right there.

Arjun Mangalorkar: Silvarius is an out-and-out stayer and his win in the Stayers Trial shows that he has improved and has a good chance.

Vijay Singh: Success is a small filly with a big heart and very genuine. Going over this trip for the first time, but she should be right there.

Nine speedsters to battle it out in the Sprinters' Cup

A field of seven horses to vie for honours in the Stayers' Cup as the Invitation Cup weekend is all set to get underway at the Bangalore Turf Club on Saturday

Cyrus J. Madan
BENGALURU

At 3.35 p.m. on Saturday, nine horses will line up to face the starter at the 1200m marker in the ultimate test for speed on the Bengaluru turf.

The Zavaray S. Poonawalla Sprinters' Cup, the first of two Grade 1 Races to be run in a span of a little over an hour, promises to be an exciting one. With the average rating being 100 plus, one could not have had a classier line-up and the 2018 track record of 1minute, 09.94s, held by Mauritania, could be under serious threat.

Of course, the run of the race is going to play a very decisive role but one shouldn't think that with just nine runners there won't be any traffic problems. More often than not, one has more hard luck stories in smaller fields than in the bigger ones.

Instead of getting into the form figures, what makes interesting reading is statistics. From 2008 to 2022, Mumbai-based trainers have produced a winner in the Sprinters' Cup 11 times but between 2020 and 2022 the winner has emerged twice from Bengaluru and once from Hyderabad.

The last time the champion hailed from Kolkata was in 1995 and Bharath Singh – the man who saddled the winner - has Agnostic under his care now.

If I had to be put on the line, I would probably opt for Agnostic, Cool Rider and Hunting Goddess as my selection for the first three.

A little over an hour later, a field of seven will face off for that gruelling test of stamina in the Dr. M.A.M. Ramaswamy Chettiar Of Chettinad Memorial Stayers' Cup. The horses of classic vintage are just two while there are five 5-year-olds & over with My Opinion, at eight, being the oldest.

It's interesting to note that between 2017 and 2022, the race was won thrice by the Bengaluru-based professional Sulaiman Attoallahi and the Mumbai-based champion trainer Pesi Shroff took the honours two times.

Chennai's B. Suresh broke their hold on the race when he saddled My Opinion to a win in 2021. All have runners in the race on Saturday.

Arc De Triomphe, trained by Adhiraj Singh Jodha, is probably the one they will all have to beat. He's shown that he relishes a trip when winning the South India Leger (2800m) ahead of My Opinion.

Also coming in with a great chance, although she has never traversed this distance, is the 4-year-old Success, trained by Vijay Singh. She too has done everything asked of her. Silvarius from Bengaluru and Chamonix from Mumbai are certain to have their followers, while My Opinion will be looking to becoming one of the oldest winners of the Stayers' Cup.

In summing up, I would opt for Arc De Triomphe and Success and we will have to see whether the record for the distance (3m, 14.01s) set by Star Contender in 1992 is going to be beaten.

Hockey India confirms Fulton as chief coach of men's team

Uthra Ganesan
NEW DELHI

As first reported by *The Hindu* two days ago, Hockey India on Friday confirmed Craig Fulton as the new chief coach of the national men's team.

While no date has been confirmed for his arrival, the 48-year-old South African will join the team at the earliest upon completing formalities, most likely after the FIH Pro League games in Rourkela later this month.

Fulton came into the spotlight during his stint as the head coach with the Irish men's team, helping it qualify for the Rio Olympics and being named FIH Coach of the Year in 2015. Most recently he was assistant coach with Belgium for six years and was also named Belgium Coach of the Year 2023 after taking the Royal Racing Club, Brussels to the Belgium League title last year, their first in 81 years.

Craig Fulton.

"I have had the honour of playing against him and now I look forward to closely working with him in this new phase. He comes with tremendous experience in coaching and his work ethic induces confidence of raising the team's performance in world hockey," HI president Dilip Tirkey said.

Appointments to the positions of the team's scientific advisor and analytical coach, though, are yet to be finalised.

Sriram Balaji and Jeevan lose in quarterfinals

INDIANS ABROAD

Sports Bureau

Sriram Balaji and Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan lost 3-6, 6-1, [10-4] to Tiago Seyboth Wild and Matias Soto in the doubles quarterfinals of the $718,245 ATP tennis on clay in Santiago, Chile.

The Indian pair collected 45 ATP points and $5,950.

The results: $718,245 ATP, Santiago, Chile: Doubles (quarterfinals): Thiago Seyboth Wild (Bra) & Matias Soto (Chi) bt Sriram Balaji & Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan 3-6, 6-1, [10-4].

Karnataka and Meghalaya brace for a historic Santosh Trophy final in Riyadh

FOOTBALL

Amitabha Das Sharma
RIYADH

Karnataka and Meghalaya gave finishing touches to their stratagems as they prepared to create history in the final of the National football championship for the Santosh Trophy at the King Fahd International Stadium here on Saturday. The Saudi Arabian capital is serving as the stage for the title clash of the 82-year-old inter-State championship of India.

Karnataka in its new nomenclature has never won the title and has so long taken pride in Mysore's triumph 54 years ago. Similarly, for Meghalaya the National crown had been elusive despite the State being one of the biggest nurseries of football talent in India.

There was an air of expectancy as the finalists slogged it out in their last practice sessions trying to find the best combination.

"We are well prepared and have made our plans to give our best against Meghalaya, which is a good team with quality players," said the Karnataka coach Ravi Babu Raju. Karnataka produced a fine all-round performance to down former champion Services 3-1 in the semifinals.

Raju feels the big semifinal win will inspire his team to go for the final glory. "We have been working on mental toughness and hope the players keep their focus and have possession of the ball and do allow the opponent to dictate terms," Raju added.

Meghalaya head coach Khlain Syiemlieh said his boys were aware of the opportunity to make history and would go all out to realise it. "Winning the semifinals was as good as winning the crown as it was our first entry into the final. We are now motivating ourselves to take the crown home," Syiemlieh said.

Match starts at 9 p.m. IST.

Qualifier Palan enters last four

PUNE CHALLENGER

Sports Bureau

Qualifier Dominik Palan of Czech Republic beat second seed Chun-Hsin Tseng of Chinese Taipei 7-6 (4), 1-6, 6-3 in the quarterfinals of the PMR Open $130,000 Challenger tennis tournament at the Balewadi Stadium, Pune, on Friday.

In the semifnals, Palan will play fourth seed Luca Nardi of Italy.

The other semifinal will be between the champion of the last two tournaments in Chennai and Bengaluru, Max Purcell of Australia and Miljan Zekic of Serbia.

In doubles, Anirudh Chandrasekar and Vijay Sundar Prashanth set up a title clash against the Japanese, Toshihide Matsui and Kaito Uesugi.

The results: Quarterfinals: Miljan Zekic (Srb) bt Harold Mayot (Fra) 6-2, 6-4; Max Purcell (Aus) bt Francesco Maestrelli (Ita) 6-0, 6-2; Luca Nardi (Ita) bt Rio Noguchi (Jpn) 6-3, 6-0; Dominik Palan (Cze) bt Chun-Hsin Tseng (Tpe) 7-6(4), 1-6, 6-3.

Doubles: Semifinals: Toshihide Matsui & Kaito Uesugi (Jpn) bt Mukund Sasikumar & Vishnu Vardhan 6-2, 7-5; Anirudh Chandrasekar & Vijay Sundar Prashanth bt Arjun Kadhe & Maximilian Neuchrist (Aut) 4-0 (retired).

Barcelona beats Real in Copa first-leg semi

Costly deflection: Militao, left, is helpless as the ball rebounds past Real's goalkeeper Courtois for an own goal. AFP

Agence France-Presse
MADRID

Barcelona won 1-0 at Real Madrid in a Clasico Copa del Rey semifinal first leg on Thursday thanks to Ederer Militao's 26th minute own goal. The Brazilian deflected a rebounding ball into his own net to give the Catalans a narrow advantage ahead of the second leg at Camp Nou on April 5.

INBRIEF

Gavin Larsen to quit as New Zealand cricket selector

Gavin Larsen has decided to step down as New Zealand Cricket selector to take on the role of Performance Director at the Warwickshire County Cricket Club (WCCC). Larsen will move to England with his wife Karen and will be based out of the WCCC's headquarters at Edgbaston, overseeing the county's men's and women's high-performance programmes.

Wheelchair tennis — Australia beats India to fifth

Australia beat India 2-0 for the fifth place in the Asia-Oceania World team cup wheelchair tennis in Pattaya, Thailand, on Friday.

The results: Men: Fifth place: Australia bt India 2-0 (Martyn Dunn bt Mariappan Durai 6-0, 6-2; Ben Weekes bt Karunakaran Karthik 6-1, 6-1).

League: Korea bt India 3-0 (Lee Ji-Hwan bt Mariappan Durai 6-2, 6-0; Han Sung Bong bt Karunakaran Karthik 6-0, 6-0; Im Ho Won & Lee Ji-Hwan bt Sathasivam Kannupayan & Karunakaran Karthik 6-0, 6-0).

Thailand bt India 3-0 (Tanyamin Faiytong bt Mariappan 6-1, 6-0; Naluemitr Benkhunthod bt Karunakaran 6-1, 6-0; Worakit Daengchuan & Tanyamin bt Mariappan & Karunakaran 6-0, 6-2).

Women: League: Korea bt India 2-0 (Han In Kyung bt Prathima Rao 6-0, 6-1; An Seong Suk bt Shilpa Puttaraju 6-0, 6-0).

China bt India 3-0 (Huang Huimin bt Prathima Rao 6-0, 6-0; Zhu Zhenzhen bt Shilpa Puttaraju 6-0, 6-0; Huang Huimin & Li Xiaohui bt Prathima & Shilpa 6-0, 6-0).

Thailand bt India 3-0 (Wadsamon Budpo bt Prathima 6-0, 6-1; Sakhorn Khanthasit bt Shilpa 6-0, 6-0; Nongnuch Roswan & Thipaksorn Singkaew bt Prathima & Shilpa 6-2, 6-0).

PSG defender Achraf Hakimi indicted on rape charges

Paris Saint-Germain defender Achraf Hakimi of Morocco has been indicted on rape charges, French prosecutors said on Friday. The prosecutors office in the Paris suburb of Nanterre said Hakimi was questioned on Thursday by investigators probing rape allegations. He was then indicted by an investigating judge and placed under judicial supervision.

Galvanised Barcelona hosts Valencia in LaLiga title pursuit

A Barcelona side galvanised by a gutsy victory over Real Madrid can take a significant step towards the Spanish title with a win over Valencia on Sunday at Camp Nou. Xavi Hernandez's men earned a 1-0 Copa del Rey semi-final, first-leg win over Los Blancos on Thursday, arresting a worrying dip in form before it spiralled out of control. However, still missing Robert Lewandowski, Ousmane Dembele and Pedri, Barca faces a real battle against a Valencia fighting for their lives at the bottom of the table. After Manchester United knocked Barca out of the Europa League last week and defeat by Almeria stopped the Catalans from moving 10 points clear at the top of the table, a third consecutive loss was nearly unthinkable. Barcelona put on a defensive masterclass to frustrate the reigning Spanish and European champions and carve out a narrow lead in the tie.

Injured LeBron to miss action in most of March

LeBron James is expected to miss most of March with an injured tendon in his right foot, the Los Angeles Lakers said on Thursday. If that timetable holds, Lakers will have to find a way to stay in the playoff race without the league's all-time scoring leader. The Lakers did not disclose the full extent of the injury, saying it was a tendon issue and that he will be "reevaluated in approximately three weeks.

MP on the mat despite Dubey's fighting ton

Saransh helps out with a timely fifty-plus score but the hosts concede a huge first-innings lead; Rest of India's off-spinner Narang snaps up four wickets before his team piles on more misery zooming to 85 for one in its second essay; Jaiswal races to an unbeaten half-century

IRANI CUP

S. Dipak Ragav
GWALIOR

Yash Dubey's valiant century (109, 258b, 16x4) was not enough to prevent Madhya Pradesh from conceding a huge first-innings lead against Rest of India on day three of the Irani Cup at the Captain Roop Singh Stadium here on Friday.

MP was bowled out for 294, with off-spinner Pulkit Narang taking four wickets to help RoI secure a 190-run lead.

First-innings' double century maker Yashasvi Jaiswal continued from where he left off, racing to an unbeaten half-century (58 batting, 53b, 8x4, 1x6) as RoI finished the day on 85 for 1 in its second innings and with a total lead of 275 runs.

Shining bright: Yash Dubey waged a lone battle for Madhya Pradesh against Rest of India.
FILE PHOTO: K. MURALI KUMAR

Jaiswal played some delightful shots, hitting Avesh Khan for three consecutive boundaries before lofting Ankit Kushwah for a six and four down the ground.

Earlier, MP resumed the day on 112 for three and was on the back foot immediately when Navdeep Saini breached overnight batter Harsh Gawli's (54) defence ending his 114-run partnership with Dubey.

From 145 for five, Dubey and Saransh Jain (66) steadied things with a 96-run stand for the sixth wicket to help the home team avoid the follow-on.

Dubey, who started his innings with fluent drives through covers and down the ground on day two, had to play within himself on Friday against some tight bowling.

The 24-year-old was also the beneficiary of some poor catching by RoI fielders as he was dropped twice, first on 84 by the keeper Upendra Yadav off Narang in the last over before lunch. Crucially, Dubey – who made a match-winning century in the Ranji Trophy final last year – got another reprieve on 99 when Mayank Agarwal dropped him at first slip off Saini, allowing him to complete a brace and get to his landmark.

For RoI, Narang was the best bowler on the day, with the off-spinner showing impeccable control over his length and creating chances. He eventually bowled Dubey with a classical off-spinner's delivery that spun in sharply from outside the off-stump before accounting for Jain, who also was dropped off his bowling.

The scores: Rest of India — 1st innings: 484.

Madhya Pradesh — 1st innings: Himanshu Mantri c Dhull b Saini 1, Arham Aquil c Upendra b Mukesh 0, Shubham Sharma lbw b Saini 4, Harsh Gawli b Saini 54, Yash Dubey b Narang 109, Aman Solanki c Indrajith b Mukesh 7, Saransh Jain c Saini b Narang 66, Anubhav Agarwal c Upendra b Narang 7, Ankit Kushwah (not out) 22, Kumar Kartikeya b Saurabh 9, Avesh Khan c Jaiswal b Narang 1, Extras (b-7, lb-5, nb-2): 14; Total (in 112.5 overs): 294.

Fall of wickets: 1-1, 2-2, 3-15, 4-129, 5-145, 6-241, 7-261, 8-266, 9-291.

Rest of India bowling: Mukesh 23-7-44-2, Saini 20-6-56-3, Sheth 13-2-43-0, Saurabh 31-9-74-1, Narang 25.5-5-65-4.

Rest of India — 2nd innings: Abhimanyu Easwaran (batting) 26, Mayank Agarwal lbw b Kartikeya 0, Yashasvi Jaiswal (batting) 58, Extras (lb-1): 1; Total (for one wicket in 18 overs): 85.

Fall of wicket: 1-1.

Madhya Pradesh bowling: Kartikeya 7-1-21-1, Avesh 2-0-16-0, Kushwah 3-0-20-0, Saransh 4-0-20-0 , Anubhav 2-0-7-0.

P.S. Vishwanath passes away

Sports Bureau
BENGALURU

P.S. Vishwanath, a former First Class cricketer for erstwhile Mysore State, a reputed coach and an administrator, passed away here on Friday. He was 96.

Vishwanath first played First Class cricket for Mysore in the 1948/49 season and went on represent the State on eight more occasions, scoring 408 runs, with a highest score of 114. He refereed Ranji Trophy games and also served as vice-president at the Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA).

But he will be most remembered for the coach he was, playing an important role in many a great Karnataka cricketer's career, including G.R. Viswanath, Brijesh Patel, Rahul Dravid and Anil Kumble.

"He played a big role in many cricketers' careers," recalled Brijesh. "When I joined his camp he was a NIS coach. He taught us the basics and was one of those coaches who went around to mofussil areas of Karnataka and identified players.

Vishwanath was a reputed coach and administrator.
THE HINDU ARCHIVES

"One of those I remember was Yere Goud from Raichur. He had very good knowledge of the game and we will miss him."

The KSCA condoled his death.

ATK MB will aim to perpetuate its dominance over Odisha FC

Key players: ATK MB's Dimitri Petratos, with nine goals and seven assists so far, will be eager to inflate his tally against OFC while the latter's Diego Mauricio, with 12 strikes to his name, will aim to deliver for the visitors. ISL / FOCUS SPORTS

ISL-9

Y.B. Sarangi
KOLKATA

ATK Mohun Bagan will bank on its die-hard supporters to carry on its winning momentum against Odisha FC in the second knockout match of the Indian Super League at the Salt Lake Stadium here on Saturday.

Third-placed ATK MB, which grabbed full points from its final two league outings, including the Kolkata derby against East Bengal, will be inspired by its seven home wins out of 10 matches and no loss record against OFC.

Confidence

The Mariners had beaten OFC in their last meeting at the same venue about a month ago. It should provide more confidence to the host in its third playoff appearance.

ATK MB's Dimitri Petratos has scored nine goals and assisted seven so far. He will be eager to inflate his tally against OFC.

"It is not necessary to change. We only have to work on the details," said ATKMB coach Juan Ferrando.

The sixth-positioned OFC, which lost its last league engagement against Jamshedpur FC at home, has just three away victories. But reaching the ISL knockouts for the first time will spur the Juggernauts to forget the past and make a fresh start in the do-or-die stage.

OFC will rely on its star striker Diego Mauricio, who has scored 12 goals, to turn things around.

"All the players are fit and available. We faced them (ATK MB) twice in the league, drawing one and losing the other. Now it is time to win," said OFC coach Josep Gombau.

The winner of the contest will meet Hyderabad FC in the last-four.